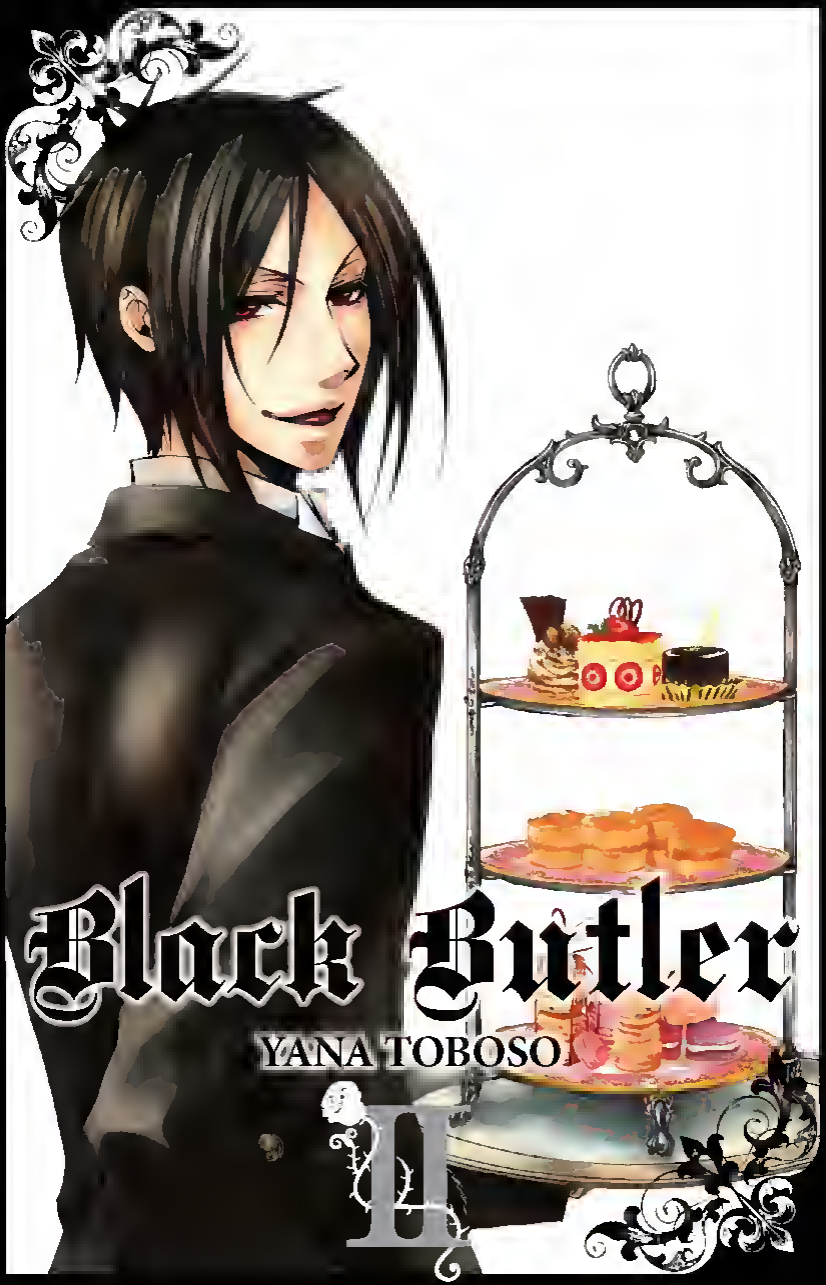
Black Butler
YANA TOBOSO
II

Black Butler
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YANA TOBOSO

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Chapter 5

In the morning : The Butler, Busy

A BUTLER BEGINS HIS DAY EARLY.
HE IS THE LAST TO FINISH HIS WORK LATE AT NIGHT, AND THE FIRST TO BEGIN WORK IN THE MORNING.
SUCH IS THE DUTY OF A BUTLER WHO MANAGES THE HOUSEHOLD.
HMM, MY HAIR HAS GROWN RATHER LONG...
...WHAT A PITY...
...I CANNOT TRIM IT AS I PLEASE.
SARA (GLIDE)
HUMANS ARE MOST TROUBLESOME.

NOW THEN, OFF WE GO.
HIS FIRST TASK IS TO ASSIGN THE DAY'S WORK TO THE SERVANTS.
KA COLICHO
GACHA GACHAKO
GOOD MORNIIING!
GOOD MORNING, EVERY-ONE.
IT IS ABOUT TIME YOU SHOULD ALL BE GETTING TO WORK.
MORNIN'
MEY-RIN, SEE TO THE LINENS.
GACHA
KAAAA!
FINNY, TEND TO THE TREES IN THE GARDEN.
BALDO, PLEASE MAKE PREPARA-TIONS FOR LUNCH.
AND MISTER TANAKA, PLEASE GO HAVE SOME TEA.
YES, SIR!
HOH! HOH! HOH!

ONCE HE HAS DISPATCHED THE SERVANTS...
...HE PREPARES EARLY MORNING TEA AND BREAKFAST IN TIME FOR THE MASTER'S AWAKENING.
PROVIDED YOU HAVE UNDERSTOOD YOUR DUTIES, OFF YOU GO!
STEP LIVELY!
PAN (CLAP)
UGH...
PAN
GOOD MORNING, YOUNG MASTER.
IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO WAKE UP.
GACHA (KACHAK)
KON (KNOCK)
KON
PAR-DON ME, SIR.
GARA (RATTLE)
GARA
GARA
BRIGHT
IT IS A FINE DAY TODAY.
.....
UUURGH...
SHA (OPEN)

THE MASTER OF THE HOUSE, EARL CIEL PHANTOMHIVE, RULES A VAST DOMAIN AT THE AGE OF TWELVE.
HE IS ALSO THE PRESIDENT OF "FUNTOM," A TOY AND CONFECTIONERY MANUFACTURER...
KOPOPO (POUR)
...AND HAS GROWN "FUNTOM" INTO A MASSIVE CORPORATION WITHIN A VERY SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME WITH HIS GIFTS OF CUNNING AND MANAGEMENT.
TODAY'S TEA IS THE ASSAM, HM?
KUA (YAWN)
JUST AS I WOULD EXPECT FROM YOUNG MASTER.
I HAD HEARD THAT GOOD TEA LEAVES WERE READY IN ASSAM, SO I HAD SOME SENT HERE.
KACHA (CLINK)
BASA (FLIP)
THE
BY THE WAY, I'VE INVITED THE CHILDREN OF EARL BURTON'S ORPHANAGE TO THE MANOR.

THAT IS A SPLENDID IDEA.
WHEN WILL THEY BE JOINING US?
TOMORROW.
A NOBLE'S WEALTH EXISTS TO CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETY.
THEY PRACTICE CHARITY USING THEIR ABUNDANT FORTUNES.
THE DISTINGUISHED PHANTOMHIVE FAMILY ALSO ENGAGES IN VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES WITHOUT EXCEPTION.
VERY WELL, SIR.
DOES HE BELIEVE HE CAN GET ANYTHING DONE SO LONG AS I AM HERE TO TAKE CARE OF IT?
HE WORKS HIS PEOPLE (?) FAR TOO HARD.
WHY, THIS LITTLE BRA— YOUNG MASTER
TO MAKE PARENTS BUY SOMETHING, YOU MUST START WITH THEIR CHILDREN.
TOMMORROW? 明日?
SFX: NIKO (SMILE)
KACHA (CLINK)
THE HEREND CHINOISERIE* TEA SET YOU ORDERED JUST THE OTHER DAY HAS ARRIVED, SIR.
OH YES...
I SHALL ENTERTAIN EVEN THE LITTLEST GUESTS IN A MANNER WORTHY OF THE PHANTOMHIVE NAME.
* GENERIC NAME FOR HEREND'S CHINESE-STYLE PATTERNED PORCELAIN

THEREFORE, AFTERNOON TEA FOR TODAY WILL BE KEEMUN.
WE ALSO HAVE BERRIES, SO I THINK A SUMMER PUDDING OF CURRANTS AND OTHER BERRIES MIGHT DO NICELY.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
DO WHAT YOU WILL.
KYU (TIGHT)
VERY GOOD, SIR.
THEN I SHALL SET ABOUT THE PREPARATIONS FOR TOMORROW AT ONCE.
NN.
NOW THEN ...
...HERE BEGINS THE BUTLER'S TRUE WORK.
PATAN (SHUT)
WELL, SHALL WE GET STARTED?
PAN (CLAP)
BA (ROLL)
GYU (TIGHT)
KYU (TUG)

FINELY CHOP THE BEST DARK AND MILK COUVERTURE AND MIX. MELT OVER A BOWL OF 60° C WATER.
AFTER BOILING AND THEN COOLING SLIGHTLY, ADD SOME FRESH CREAM.
COOL WHILE STIRRING, AND ADD SOME COINTREAU WHEN THE MIXTURE IS AT BODY TEMPERATURE.
LAUNDRY ROOM
...!?
WHAT IS GOING ON?
GYAAAH!!
THEN POUR INTO THE OULD -!

BUWAA (BUBBLES)
MISTER SEBAS-TIAAAN !!
!!?
GACHA (KACHAKO)
MEY-RIN?
WHAT ON EARTH IS GOING—
THIS DETER-GENT! I PUT IT IN!
XXX (30) SPOONFULS, JUST AS THE DIRECTIONS SAY, BUT SOMETHING SEEMS TO HAVE GONE WROOONG!
WHY ARE THERE BUBBLES EVERY-WHERE !?
SFX: AWA (BLOOP) AWAAAA
GAMIN (SHOCK)
EH !!?
THIS READS III (3) SPOON-FULS, NOT XXX (30).
MEY-RIN.
AAAAAH-!

WORD HAS IT THAT THE PUBLIC ADORES GOOFY MAIDS, BUT I DO NOT THINK I WILL EVER UNDERSTAND IT. (AND I HAVE NO INTENTION OF EVEN TRYING TO DO SO.)
I MYSELF WOULD LIKE TO WRING HER NECK.
I-I-I-I AM SO VERY SORRRRRY
WHY DOES SHE FAIL TO REALISE THAT THERE IS SOMETHING CLEARLY WRONG WITH HER OWN BRAIN AND NOT THE INSTRUCTIONS?
WHY, THIS IMBEC— THAT IS TO SAY, HOUSEMAID.
IT WOULD SEEM THE PROBLEM NO LONGER LIES IN HER EYESIGHT.
KYU (SCRUB)
PAN (SLAP)
GACHO (GRIP)
HAAH... ALL RIGHT.
FOR THE MOMENT, PLEASE LEAVE THIS TO ME.
HATA (FLAP)
HATA (FLAP)
FUSHI (CLEAN)
...WHEW.

I STILL HAVE MUCH TO DO, SO I SHALL BE TAKING MY LEAVE.
POOOO (BLUSH)
PLEASE RETURN TO WORK AS WELL.
SUTA (STRIDE)
REALLY...
ALL THIS WHEN I AM RUNNING SHORT ON TIME.
SUTA
BATAMU! (SHUT!)
NOW, WHERE WAS I...?
PLACE THE BUTTER AND WATER IN A SKILLET AND BRING TO A BOIL.
EXTINGUISH THE GAS. SIFT THE FLOUR AND BAKING POWDER INTO THE MIXTURE.
DOKAAAAN (KABOOM)
AFTER STIRRING THE MIXTURE QUICKLY WITH A WOODEN SPATULA, HEAT ON A LOW FLAME—

PUSU (PSSS)
プス
PUSU
プス…
!?
WHAT IS IT THIS TIME!?
SHUUUU (WHOOSH)
WELL, YA SEE, I GOT THIS NEW WEAPON FROM BACK HOME, BUT...
...IT DOESN'T WORK AT ALL.
GEEZ!
COOKING IS ART!!
IS IT NOW...
ゴオオオオ
GOOOOOO
AND ART IS EXPLO-SIVE!
DON'CHA SWEAT THE DETAILS!!
TO BEGIN WITH, IS THAT EVEN A TOOL FOR COOKING?
MAKING ROAST LAMB WITH LAVENDER DOES NOT REQUIRE THAT MUCH HEAT...
EXHAUSTED.

SAVE YOUR ART FOR YOUR HAIRSTYLE, AND COOK SOMETHING EDIBLE... OTHERWISE...
...I WISH FOR YOU TO BECOME CHARCOAL YOURSELF.
(COOKING IS SEBASTIAN'S HEY, YA
I BELIEVE EIGHTY PERCENT OF WHAT YOU HAVE MANAGED TO "COOK" HAS BEEN CHAR-COAL.
* THE OTHER TWENTY PERCENT WAS HAZARDOUS WASTE.
WHY, THIS IMBEC— RATHER, CHEF.
YOU SHOULD TALK ABOUT COOKING AFTER YOU HAVE ACTUALLY "COOKED" SOME-THING.
GUTSU
GUTSU (SIMMER)
GUTSU
TO (THOK)
TO
TO
TO
TO
TO
ZA (ROLL)
HAAH ...ALL RIGHT.
WE STILL HAVE THE GROUND MEAT AND VEGETA-BLES, SO LET US MAKE DO WITH THAT.
NYA—
JAAAAN! (TA-DAA!)
TODAY'S LUNCH Stuffed cabbage and minced potato salad
WHOA!
...WHEW!!

THIS SHOULD SUFFICE FOR THE TIME BEING.
YESSIR!!
I LEAVE THE TIDYING UP TO YOU.
UNBE-LIEV-ABLE!
SUTA (STRIDE)
NOT ONE SHRED OF MY WORK IS GETTING DONE!
BATAN (SLAM)
LET US FINISH THIS RIGHT AWAY.
DOSA (THUMP)
DOOOON (WHAM)
SPREAD THE BROWN SUGAR ON A BAKING SHEET. AT THE EN TO 0°C—
UWA-AAAA-AAAA-AHN!!
ZABAA (SPLOOF)
I CAN DISCERN NOT A WORD OF SENSE IF YOU PERSIST WITH YOUR CRYING.
ARE YOU AN INFANT?
WHAT HAP-PENED?
UWAAA-AAAAHN!! MISTER SEBAS-TIAAAAN!!
BUEEEEEEEEEE
...NOW IT IS YOUR TURN, I TAKE IT...
EEEEHN!!

SFX: SHIO (WITHER) SHIO

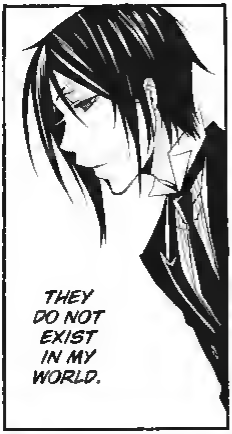
I HAVE GONE BEYOND ANGER, AND I AM, IN FACT, RATHER IMPRESSED.
HE REFERS TO SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED TWO OR THREE DAYS AGO AS BEING "A WHILE BACK." THE WAY HIS BRAIN CAN EASILY CAST ASIDE A BLUNDER OF THAT CALIBRE...
WAAAAA I AM SOO SORRRRRR
THOUGH THE SAYING GOES, "AN IDIOT AND A PAIR OF SCISSORS CAN BOTH BE OF USE," GIVING THIS USELESS IDIOT A PAIR OF SCISSORS IS TROUBLE IN ITSELF.
W-
WHY, THIS IM-BEC— THIS IMBE-CILE!!
HOW CAN A GARDEN-ER BE SO CLUMSY?
AAH!!
YOU ARE THE GARDENER. THE DESIGN OF THE GARDEN IS YOUR RESPONSI-BILITY.
PURCHASE WHATEVER YOU DEEM APPRO-PRIATE.
PIKU (PERK)
WHAT SORT OF TREES SHOULD I GET?
HAAAH...
THERE IS NOTHING EVEN I CAN DO ABOUT THIS.
SEBAS-TIAN'S POCKET MONEY
GO AND BUY SOME TREES AT THE GARDEN SHOP...
I HAVE LIVED FOR QUITE SOME TIME, BUT THIS IS MY FIRST ENCOUNTER WITH A BEING FROM OUTER SPACE.
HOW DOES HE EXPECT ME TO RESPOND TO HIS BEAMING SMILE?
A ROBOT ?
PAAAA (GLOOOM)
RECEPTION SIGNAL
EH !?
THEN! THEN!
I WANNA MAKE A GARDEN AS COOL AS A COMBO ROBOT!!
MAY !?

SHEESH, YOU CAN'T JUST LET YOUR MIND WANDER OFF LIKE THAT!
I'M BE SAYIN' JUNK THERE!
TSUN (PROD)
THE YOUNG MASTER'LL GET ANGRY, SO DO PLEASE GIVE ME THE MONEY RIIIIGHT QUIIIICK! ☆
!!!!
MIS-TER SE-BAS-TIAN?
HA (GASP)
BE BACK IN A JIFF!
YAAAY!
GAUNT
HAIR FALLING OUT
I HAVE HAD ENOUGH.
AT TIMES LIKE THESE, YES...
...I WANT TO SEE HER.

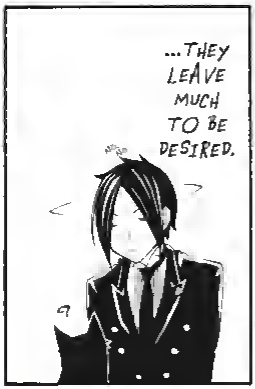
BAAN (SLAM)
I MUST HURRY...
...TO THE PLACE WHERE SHE AWAITS ME.
A SUPPLE BODY, FLOWING BLACK HAIR.
FIERCE EYES THAT SHINE LIKE AMBER.
TA (CRASH)
MEOOOOW
...to her.
HAAH..
YES...
PAA (CREAK)
MEW?

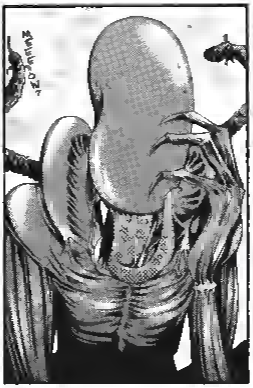
SFX: HAGYU (CHOMP) HAGYU

I FIND CATS MOST AGREEABLE.



SFX: GORO (GROAN) GORO

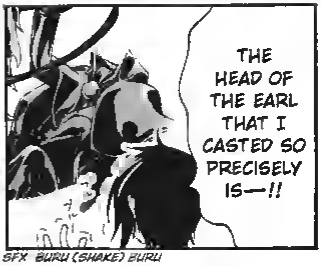




AAH...YOUR PAW IS SO SOFT...
I WANT TO HOLD YOU LIKE THIS FOR-EVER...
FUMI FUMI FUMI FUMI FUMI FUMI FUMI
PUNYU (SQUISH)
SFX: NYU (PROTRUDE)
I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AGAIN TOMOR-ROW.
...BUT I MUST GO NOW.
MIRGON?
PATAN (SHUT)
DEAR ME.

AFTER COUNTLESS INTER-RUPTIONS, THIS IS ALL I COULD MANAGE, HM?
WHEW
DO (STOMP)
DO
DO
DO
MISTER SEBAS-TIAAAA-AAAAAN !!
YES?
NOW WHAT?

WE ARE INVITING CHILDREN HERE TOMORROW...
...SO THIS IS FOR THEM.
ARE THESE ALL SWEETS !?
MADE YOU DO ALL THE WORK?
SO THIS IS WHAT YOU WERE UP TO WHILE YOU MADE US DO ALL THE WORK?
IT'S CHOCOLATE!
WOOOOOW!!
ALL THIS JUST FOR SOME BRATS ?
WHOA, CRAZY
THAT'S MISTER SEBASTIAN FOR YOU !!!
BUT...
...WHAT SORT OF STATUE IS THIS ?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
IT IS THE WILD EARL OF WHOM YOU ARE SO FO—
!!?



SFX: BURU (SHAKE) BURU

!
HA (GASP)
はッ
HOOOOH HOH! HOH! HOH!
(MISTER) TANAKAAA!!!
CHOCOLATE
DO (CRASH)
DO
I CANNOT DEAL WITH THIS NOW! IT IS TIME FOR AFTER-NOON TEA.
YES, SIIIIR!!
I WILL PREPARE IT, SO PLEASE DO YOUR UTMOST TO SEARCH OUT MISTER TANAKA!
PACHIN (SNAP)
SFX: KON (KNOCK) KON
GACHA (KACHAK)
PARDON ME, SIR.
LEAVING MATTERS IN THE HANDS OF THOSE GOOD-FOR-NOTHINGS CAUSES ME NO END OF WORRY I MUST RETURN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
GARA (RATTLE)
GARA
GYAAAH!!

YOU EVEN LEFT THE WINDOW WIDE OPEN ...
DESPITE MY PRESENCE HERE, LEAVING YOURSELF COMPLETELY VULNERABLE WILL NEVER DO.
PATAN (SHUT)
REALLY
YOUNG MASTER
EXHAUSTED
SFX: KUUUU (ZZZZ) KAAAA (ZZZZ)

BEING A BUTLER IS FAR FROM EASY.

USELESS SERVANTS.

A CAPRICIOUS MASTER.

BUT I FEEL LIVING IN THIS MANNER IS NOT TOO BAD FOR...
HEH!
GNUUUU (PHWACK)
YOUNG MASTER! PLEASE WAKE UP!
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU NOT TO SNACK ON THE SLY!?
!!?
DID YOU FIND HIM!? KEEP LOOKING!!
MEAN WHILE
HOH HOH HOH!

Black Butler

YOUNG MASTER, YET MORE LETTERS FOR YOU HAVE ARRIVED TODAY.
どさっ
どさ
(PLUMP)
THE SEASON IS NEARLY OVER, BLOODY IDLERS.
YET THEY'RE ALL IN SEARCH OF GUESTS FOR THEIR SILLY BALLS... NOTHING GOOD HAPPENS IN LONDON.
うんざり。
UNZARI (FED UP)
LIST OF INVITATIONS
ぽい
(FLICK)
ぴた
(PAUSE)
ぽい
EARL WARWICK
BARON BATH
COUNTESS GARTLAND...
THIS IS...

CHAPTER 6
At noon : The Butler, Activated

THE ENGLISH SUMMER IS BRIEF.
MAY THROUGH AUGUST, WHEN THE WEATHER IS AT ITS BEST, IS KNOWN AS "THE SEASON" ...
...AND THE ARISTOCRATS TRAVEL FROM THEIR MANORS TO THEIR LONDON TOWN HOUSES TO SOCIALISE.
SASHA (SHAW)
IT HAS BEEN A WHILE SINCE YOUNG MASTER LAST CAME TO THE TOWN HOUSE.

I WOULDN'T BE HERE IF NOT FOR "THAT LETTER"...
THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE, YOU CAN'T EVEN WALK PROPERLY.
IT MAY PROVE A NICE RESPITE FOR YOU TO LEAVE THE MANOR SOMETIMES.
THOSE FOUR ARE NOWHERE TO BE FOUND HERE, SO YOU WILL BE able TO SPEND YOUR DAYS IN PEACE.
THE HOUSESITTING TEAM
MISTER SEBAS-CHAAAN!
NAAAAH!
DON'T GOOOO!!!
キャッ
GASP! (GASP)
ムス
MUSU (POUT)

ごっちゃあ～
GOCCHAAA (MESSY)
GOOD HEAVENS, WHERE DO THEY KEEP THE TEA IN THIS HOUSE?
I DON'T SEE IT ANY-WHERE.

SFX: GARA (CRUMBLE) GARA
SO YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SPEND YOUR DAYS IN PEACE
NOW, NOW! YOU NEVER KNOW!
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO FIND IT THERE, AH-HA-HA!
MADAM RED!? LAU!?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE ...!?
OH! YOU GOT HERE RATHER QUICKLY.

WHY, HELLO, LORD EARL.
I HEARD RUMOURS THAT SOMETHING OF INTEREST IS AFOOT.
Lau
British Branch Manager, Chinese Trading Company "Kongrong"
I'VE COME TO SEE MY LOVELY NEPHEW, WHO TOLD ME HE WAS MAKING HIS WAY TO LONDON.
The former Baroness Burnett
Angelina Dalles
(aka Madam Red)
Employed at the Royal London Hospital.
ESPECIALLY WHEN PREPARED CORRECTLY.
WHAT A LOVELY AROMA.
TODAY, THE TEA IS JACKSON'S "EARL GREY."
WE APOLOGISE FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO GREET OUR HONOURABLE GUESTS.
I WILL HAVE ELEVENSES READY SHORTLY, SO PLEASE WAIT A WHILE.
A MOST TROUBLESOME PAIR HAS COME AND SHOWED UP.

Butler of the Burnett Family
Grelle Sutcliff
Y-yes ...
Grelle, you should follow his example.
Earl Grey can taste this different!?
...You are a most handsome fellow, no matter how many times I look at you!
Why don't you come to my place instead of working at a manor house!?
Guh fu fu...
Pikuu
Chuu
!!
Ahem!!
Madam Red...
Ah excuse me I couldn't help myself!
!!
In any case...
Let's get right down to it...
A few days ago, a prostitute was killed in Whitechapel.
Ah, that incident the papers have been making a fuss over, yes?
I know of it.
But... there must be something more to it since you're here.

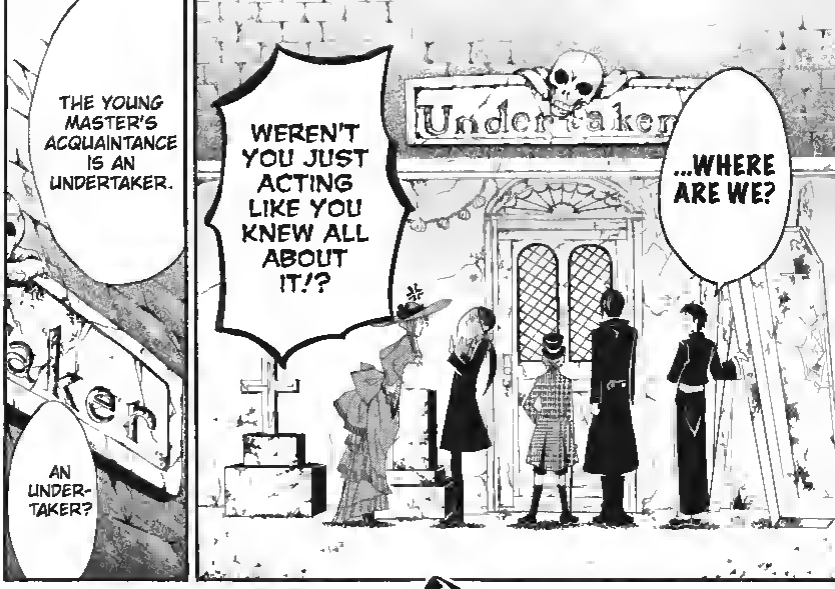
THE VICTIM, MARY ANN NICHOLS...
...WAS RIPPED TO SHREDS WITH SOME SORT OF SPECIALISED CUTTING INSTRUMENT.
IT IS PSYCHOTIC... NO, ABNORMAL. THAT'S WHAT CONCERNS "HER."
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YES, THIS IS NO SIMPLE MURDER.
THE CITY POLICE AND THE LOCAL PROSTITUTES HAVE DUBBED THE KILLER...
..."JACK THE RIPPER."

AND I TOO AM VERY CURIOUS ...
...TO SEE WHAT THE QUEEN'S WATCHDOG WILL SNIFF OUT.
... HOW-EVER ...
HEH.
I TOO HURRIED TO LONDON TO VERIFY THE SITUATION.
...WHAT ARE YOU GETTING AT?
...HAVE YOU THE COURAGE TO GAZE UPON THE SCENE OF THE CRIME?
THE DARKNESS AND BESTIAL ODOR THAT SATURATES THE SCENE WILL EAT AWAY AT THOSE WITH THE SAME KARMA.
YOU MAY BE TRAPPED IN MADNESS SHOULD YOU SET FOOT THERE.
GU (SHF)

ARE YOU PREPARED...
...FOR THAT...
...EARL PHANTOMHIVE?
SU
I AM HERE TO ELIMINATE THE SOURCE OF "HER" DISTRESS.
DO NOT WASTE MY TIME WITH YOUR WORTHLESS QUESTIONS.
—YES, LOVELY.
VERY LOVELY INDEED. THOSE EYES OF YOURS.

SO WHERE IS THIS CRIME SCENE, LAU?
REALLY!!
MEN HAVE NO PATIENCE! AT LEAST RELAX AND FINISH YOUR TEA.
THEN I'LL JOIN YOU TOO.
NOW WAIT!!
WELL, SINCE THAT'S NOW BEEN DECIDED, LET'S BE OFF, LORD EARL!!
... MADAM ?
DID YOU NOT KNOW...
YOU WERE BABBLING ON WHEN YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW YOURSELF!?
DEAR, OH DEAR
WELL, I NEVER!
THEN I SUPPOSE WE'LL HAVE TO ASK SOMEONE AROUND HERE.
WHAT WAS THAT LONG PROLOGUE FOR?
EH?
GYAI!
NO ONE SAID WE WERE GOING TO THE CRIME SCENE.
HAAA...
QUIET DOWN.
GYAI!

MY LORD... DON'T TELL ME...
THEN WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO?
WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DO MUCH ANYWAY BECAUSE THE PLACE IS ALREADY FULL OF SPECTA-TORS.
AND THE YARD WON'T TAKE KINDLY TO ME GOING THERE EITHER.
I'D LIKE TO AVOID IT MYSELF, BUT THAT ISN'T AN OPTION.
HAAH...
HE IS THE MOST RELIABLE SOURCE OF INFORMATION REGARDING CRIMES LIKE THIS.
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.
—SO...


THE YOUNG MASTER'S ACQUAINTANCE IS AN UNDERTAKER.
AN UNDER-TAKER?
WEREN'T YOU JUST ACTING LIKE YOU KNEW ALL ABOUT IT!?
...WHERE ARE WE?

...UNDER-TAKER?
ARE YOU IN...

I... HAVE BEEN EXPECTING YOU...
..... HEE! HEE...

HAS YOUR LORDSHIP FINALLY DECIDED TO STEP INTO THE COFFIN THAT I'VE MADE SPECIALLY FOR YOU ...!?
HIS LEGS GIVE OUT
I BID YE WELLLLLLL-COME, LORD EARL...
GIIII (CREEEAK)
I THINK NOT. TODAY, I AM...
ピト (PITO) (PRESS)
YOU DON'T NEED TO SAY IT.
I UNDER-STAND VEEEERY WELL....
...WHAT MILORD WISHES TO SAY.
The Undertaker

...I WANT TO HEAR ABOUT THAT.
SHE WASN'T A "CUSTOMER" IN THE "ORDINARY FOLK" SENSE OF THE WORD.
SEE, I CLEANED HER UP RIIIIGHT NICE AND PRETTY.
—NOW THEN.
OVER WHERE...?
WON'T YOU JUST TAKE A SEAT SOME-WHERE OVER THERE?
I'LL MAKE SOME TEA OR SOME-THING.
THEN LET'S HAVE A CHAT.
!!
A BEAKER
...THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME I'VE HAD A CUSTOMER LIKE THAT.
A BISCUIT
YOU WANT TO HEAR ABOUT JACK THE RIPPER, YESSSS?
THE YARD'S STARTING TO GET THEIR KNICKERS IN A BUNCH ABOUT IT NOW, BUT...
MADE LOPEZ
TEA

FANCY A BISCUIT, MILADY?
I'LL PASS.
IN THE PAST, THERE'VE BEEN A NUMBER OF CASES...
...INVOLVING MURDERED WHORES.
BUT THE INTENSITY AND CRUELTY WITH WHICH THEY'RE BEING DONE IN CONTINUES TO ESCALATE.
NOT THE FIRST TIME?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THE YARD FAILED TO TAKE NOTICE BECAUSE THE MURDERS WEREN'T TERRIBLY BLOODY AT THE OUT-SET...
...BUT ALL THE PROSTITUTES KILLED IN WHITECHAPEL HAD A LITTLE SOMETHING IN COMMON.
SOME-THING IN COMMON?
...YOU SAY?
WELL, WHAT COULD IT BE?
WHAT-EVER COULD IT BE?
WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO KNOW?
NIYA
NIYA GRIND
KARA GRIND

I SEE. THAT'S HOW IT IS.
BEING AN UNDERTAKER IS ONLY HIS FACADE FOR NORMAL SOCIETY.
UGH...
HOW MUCH DO YOU WANT FOR THE INFORMATION?
HOW MUCH?
I DO NOT DESIRE A SINGLE ONE OF THE QUEEN'S COINS.
NOW, MILORD...
GIVE IT TO ME...
BESTOW UPON ME THE CHOICEST "LAUGHTER" ...!!
THEN I SHALL TELL YOU ANYTHING ...!!
WHAT THE HECK!?
THE NEXT PERFORMER SEEMS TO BE GOOD.

LORD EARL.
PLEASE ALLOW ME TO HANDLE THIS.
KATEGIN
OHHH, YESSS!!
HAAH! HAAH!
THAT CREEP.
AAAAH!!
CANNOT REFUTE THAT STATEMENT
PEOPLE HAVE CALLED ME THE SLEEPING TIGER OF NEW YEAR'S PARTIES IN SHANGHAI.
...AND NOW, I SHALL... DEMONSTRATE THAT IN FULL!!
TIGER
A FOOL ON THE FUTON.
...OH?
SHIN (QUIET)
KAAAN
MADAM RED, STAR OF SOCIAL CIRCLES ...
...SHALL SHARE WITH YOU HER BEST TALE!!
YOU'LL NEVER DO, LAU...
KATEGIN
VERY WELL.
NAAAAAAAN!
AHHH!
BA DUMM!

AN HOUR LATER
THAT LEAVES ONLY YOU, MILORD.
~BZZZT~
~BZZZT~
GAH HA HA HA!!
AAAAND THE [redacted] (~BLEEPS~)
WITH THE [redacted] (~BLEEPS~)
~BLEEPS~
A LEWD STORY
SO THEN.
HIS [redacted] WAS [redacted] !!
AND HIS [redacted] WAS [redacted] TOO!
GAH-HA-HA-HA!
SFX: SHIN (SILENCE)
IT APPEARS THERE IS NOTHING FOR IT.
SE-BAS-TIAN !?
ZA (STEP)
...BUT NO SPECIALS THIS TIME.
THE LAST TIME, I WAS A BIT GENEROUS IF I DO SAY SO MY-SELF...
GUH
DAMN...
SU (SWP)

S-SE-BAS-TIAN.
EVERYONE, PLEASE STEP OUTSIDE IF YOU WOULD.
OHHH...? IT'S MASTER BUTLER'S TURN TO TAKE A GO, NOW IS IT?
PATTAHU (SHUT)
SHIN (SILENCE)
GIRAH! (GLARE)
YOU MUST NOT, UNDER ANY CONDITION, PEEK IN-SIDE...
AH-HA-HA HA!
HUH-WHOA!
GATAN (CLATTER)
SHUDDER
SPLINCH!
GYAH-HA-HA-HA!

GACHA GACHAKO
Please come in.
He has agreed to speak to us.
HUH-HUH-WHOA!
PIKU
PIKU
FOR A WHILE NOW...
...I'VE OCCA-SION-ALLY HAD...
GUH-HEH-HEH...
I'LL TELL YOU ANYTHING YOU WISH TO KNOW.
EHUH WHOA...
WELL...TO GET BACK TO THE MATTER AT HAND...
NOTHING MUCH
GUH FU...!
WHAT DID YOU DO?
I SAW PARADISE...
...LACK-ING?
YES, QUITE LACKING.
...HOW SHALL I SAY... LACKING, YOU SEE?
GUH-FU!
...CLIENTS WHO ARE...

THEIR INNARDS ...
...THAT IS.
!!
BEFORE MY CUSTOMERS CAN REST EASY ON THEIR BEDS, I MUST GET THEM NICE AND CLEAN, YES?
LIKE PUTTING BACK WHAT-EVER MIGHT HAVE SPILLED OUT
FUKI (WIPE)
FUKI
AND EXAMINING (READ: PLAYING WITH) THEM AS I DO MY DUTY IS A LITTLE HOBBY OF MINE, YOU SEE?
SO THEY WERE ALL LACKING A KIDNEY OR SOMESUCH?
SELL OFF YOUR KIDNEY OR LIVER
TO MAKE THE MONEY!
IN THAT CASE, THE KILLER IS A LOAN SHARK OR THE LIKE...
LOOK OUT!

CHINESE CELLAR RATS THINK UP THE MOST DISTURBING THINGS! THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.
IT IS SOMETHING ONLY A PROSTITUTE... A GIRL WOULD POSSESS.
THIS ONE DOESN'T HAVE IT EITHER.
EACH WAS MISSING...
...HER UTERUS.
!
AHH! HOW FRIGHTENING FRIGHTENING!
MY CLERK
LATELY, I'M SUDDENLY SEEING A RISE IN SUCH "CUSTOMERS"...
...AND THEIR CRIMSON "ROUGE" IS BECOMING GAUDIER BY THE DAY.
IT'S ALL KEEPING ME VERY BUSY.
EVEN WITH FEW PASSERS-BY, COMMITTING MURDER ON THE STREET... MOREOVER, IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT...
...WOULD IT NOT BE DIFFICULT FOR AN AMATEUR TO CUT OUT THE WOMB WITH THE NECESSARY PRECISION?
QUITE THE BRIGHT CANDLE AREN'T WE, MASTER BUTLER? I'VE CONSIDERED THAT MYSELF

WELL, LET'S SEE... FIRST, I'D TAKE SOMETHING SHARP...
...AND SLASH THE THROAT...
ZUGU (CRINGE)
...THEN I'D CUT RIIIIGHT HERE...
...AND STEAL AWAY THE LITTLE PRECIOUS.
THE "SKILL" INVOLVED... AND...
..."THE LACK OF HESITATION" POINTS TO A PROFESSIONAL.
AND MOST LIKELY, SOMEONE OF THE "UNDERWORLD," AT THAT.
AND THAT IS WHY I KNEW YOU WOULD COME HERE, MILORD.
SFX: TSUN (POKE)

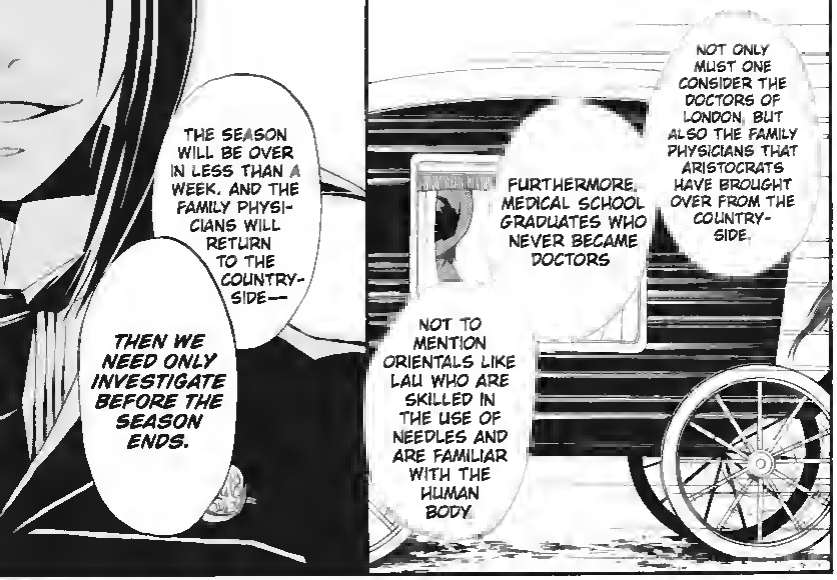
IF THERE WERE A POSSIBILITY THAT THE KILLER BELONGED TO THE "UNDER-WORLD" ...
...I EXPECTED YOU WOULD BE SUMMONED HERE WITHOUT FAIL.
HEED MY WORDS... ANOTHER WILL DIE.
AND SO WILL THE MURDERS CONTINUE ...
...UNTIL SOMEONE STOPS THEM.
CAN YOU STOP THE KILLER...
GAH! CRASHED
...*ARISTOCRAT OF EVIL,* EARL PHANTOMHIVE ?
THE UNDER-WORLD HAS ITS OWN RULES.
ITS RESIDENTS DO NOT KILL THOSE ON THE OTHER SIDE WITHOUT REASON...
...AND THEY DO NOT INVADE POLITE SOCIETY USING THE POWERS OF THE UNDER-WORLD.

EXCUSE OUR INTRUSION...
...UNDER-TAKER.
BY OUR FAMILY COAT OF ARMS...
...I VOW TO ELIMINATE, WITHOUT EXCEPTION, ALL WHO DEFILE THE GARDENS OF THE QUEEN...
...BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY.

GARA
GARA
GARA
GARA
GARA
GARA (RATTLE)
GARA
GARA
GARA
GARA
BASED ON OUR EARLIER CONVERSATION, WE CAN NOW SIMPLIFY OUR LIST OF SUSPECTS.

WAIT... YOU CALL THIS "SIMPLIFIED"?
JUST HOW MANY PEOPLE DO YOU THINK GATHER IN LONDON DURING THE SEASON!?

YES, QUITE... FIRST, WE HAVE... "SOMEONE WELL-VERSED IN MEDICAL SCIENCE AND ANATOMY."
AMONG THEM, "SOMEONE WITH NO ALIBI ON THE NIGHTS OF THE MURDERS."
AND AS THE PERPETRATOR HAS ABSCONDED WITH THE UTERUS OF EACH VICTIM, "SOMEONE INVOLVED WITH A SECRET SOCIETY OR CULT OF BLACK MAGIC" IS ALSO A POSSIBILITY.


THE SEASON WILL BE OVER IN LESS THAN A WEEK. AND THE FAMILY PHYSICIANS WILL RETURN TO THE COUNTRYSIDE—
THEN WE NEED ONLY INVESTIGATE BEFORE THE SEASON ENDS.
NOT ONLY MUST ONE CONSIDER THE DOCTORS OF LONDON, BUT ALSO THE FAMILY PHYSICIANS THAT ARISTOCRATS HAVE BROUGHT OVER FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE.
FURTHERMORE, MEDICAL SCHOOL GRADUATES WHO NEVER BECAME DOCTORS
NOT TO MENTION ORIENTALS LIKE LAU WHO ARE SKILLED IN THE USE OF NEEDLES AND ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE HUMAN BODY.

WE NEED ONLY PAY A CALL TO EACH INDIVIDUAL AND VERIFY HIS ALIBI PRIOR TO THE SEASON COMING TO A CLOSE.
COME AGAIN ...?

PLEASE LEAVE IT TO ME.
VERIFY THEIR ALIBIS!? EVEN THOUGH WE DON'T KNOW THEIR EXACT NUMBERS YET!?

POKAAN (STUNNED)
ぽかーん
I AM THE BUTLER OF THE PHANTOMHIVE FAMILY.
IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT I CAN MANAGE SOMETHING AS TRIVIAL AS THIS.

WAH!
BAN (BANG)

EH, WAI—!
I SHALL MAKE A LIST OF SUSPECTS AND CALL ON EACH OF THEM IMMEDIATELY.

EH!?
AH! YES!?
MISTER GRELLE, WAS IT NOT?
PLEASE DRIVE SAFELY BACK TO THE TOWN HOUSE.
GARA (RATTLE)
GARA
AWAH!
NOW, IF YOU WILL EXCUSE ME...
GO SHOO!

GONE.
HANG ON!? BUT THE CARRIAGE IS STILL MOVING!?
PATAN SHUT

SFX: GARA (RATTLE) GARA GARA
AH!
ガラガラガラ
HEY, YOU! WATCH WHERE YOU'RE GOING!!
WE'RE GOING TO CRASH!!!
Y-YES!!
BEG PARDON.
AAAH!
SFX: PO (BLUSH)
H—
HE'S GONE...
MY BUTLER SAID HE WOULD TAKE CARE OF IT.
HE WILL NOT RETURN EMPTY-HANDED.
ALL WE NEED TO DO IS SIP OUR TEA AND BIDE OUR TIME.
HAAH.
SEBASTIAN MADE SOME RATHER LOFTY CLAIMS, BUT—
NO, THAT ISN'T IT, REALLY.
IT'S JUST THAT HE NEVER LIES.
EVER.
YOU HAVE GREAT FAITH IN HIM, HMM ...?
.....

.....
HE AND THE EARL HAVE SPENT MUCH TIME TOGETHER, SO THEIR FOUNDATION IS A SOLID ONE.
—YES.
HE HAS ALWAYS BEEN BY THE EARL'S SIDE...
...LIKE HIS SHADOW.
AH.
IS THAT SO?
SEBASTIAN'S ONLY BEEN IN MY SERVICE FOR TWO YEARS, YOU KNOW?
THAT'S SHORT
WE HAD TO TAKE THE LONG WAY 'ROUND BECAUSE GRELLE GOT LOST!
BEG PARDON, BEG PARDON...
NO! NO! NO!
MY BACK HURTS!
HAAA~ AH!
WE'VE FINALLY MADE IT!

WELCOME HOME.
I HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.
COME COME, MADAM RED.
LET US HAVE A SPOT OF AFTER-NOON TEA AND TAKE A...
SFX: ZUUUN (DEPRESSED)
...BREAK...
YOUR AFTER-NOON TEA IS READY.
NN.
A CORN-MEAL CAKE OF PEARS AND BLACK-BERRIES WILL BE ACCOM-PANYING IT TODAY.
WAIT...
...WHY ARE YOU HERE!?
SWEETS
SWEETS

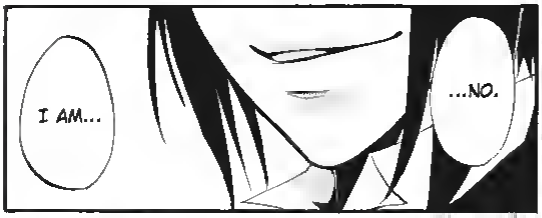
YOUR "ASSIGN-MENT"—
SO YOU ALREADY HAVE A LIST!?
NOT QUITE, YOU SEE.
HM?
I RETURNED IN ADVANCE BECAUSE I HAD FINISHED MY ASSIGN-MENT.
SWEETS
SWEETS
ON FOOT!?
POKAN (STUNNED)
ぽかん。
HOWEVER, IT DID TAKE SOME TIME BECAUSE I INVESTIGATED THE ARISTOC-RACY'S FAMILY PHYSICIANS AS WELL.
I SIMPLY COMPILED A LIST BASED ON THE CHARACTER-ISTICS WE DISCUSSED EARLIER AND...
...PAID EACH INDIVIDUAL ON THAT LIST A VISIT. THAT WAS ALL.
REALLY, SEBAS-TIAN...
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, EVEN FOR YOU—
HEH!

EARL CHAMBERS'S FAMILY DOCTOR WILLIAM SOMERSET WAS ATTENDING A PARTY SPONSORED BY EARL HARWOOD WHEN MARY ANN NICHOLS WAS KILLED. HE HAS AN ALIBI, AND IS NOT INVOLVED IN SECRET SOCIETIES.
...HAS AN ALIBI. WALE...WAS ATTENDING A MEETING AND HAS AN ALIBI. NOT INVOLVED IN SECRET SOCIETIES. DUKE BAILEY'S FAMILY PHYSICIAN, RICHARD OSWAL...SPENT TIME IN THE WHITE HORSE PUB WITH HIS COMRADES...HAS AN ALIBI. ROYAL LONDON CENTRAL HOSPITAL... SURGERY...TALKING BUSINESS AND HAS AN ALIBI...
HMPH!

...NOT INVOLVED IN SECRET SOCIETIES... INTON'S FAMILY PHYSICIAN, JOSIAH CONDOR...THE DAY BEFORE...CY BILLOW WAS KILLED, WAS AT THE TEN FOX PUB...NOT INVOLVED IN SECRET SOCIETIES. HEAD OF BARON DARSONTON'S FAMILY DAV..SURGEON AT THE HOSPITAL AFFILIATED WITH LONDON UNIVERSITY, SIMON B...PHYSICIAN AT SAINT THOMAS' HOSPITAL...O..WAS EATING OUT WITH PARENTS AND HAS AN ALIBI...
...ALIBI. NOT INVOLVED WITH SECRET SOCIETIES...BURT'S FAMILY PHYSICIAN, NICHOLAS ANTHONY..BI. IS INVOLVED WITH SECRET SOCIETIES. PHYSICIAN AT ROYAL LONDON CENTRAL HOSPITAL...SURGEON ADAM HEIVITT. WHEN ANNA HARBOR WAS KILLED.. HAD CONTACT WITH A BOY AT STAPLE INN AND HAS AN ALIBI...WELLINGTON. WHEN MARY ANN NICHOLS WAS KILLED...NOT INVOLVED WITH SECRET SOCIETIES. DUKE RUSSELL'S FAMILY PHYSICIAN J...NOT INVOLVED IN SECRET SOCIETIES...
BASED ON THESE RESULTS...
ZURU (SLIP)

HOW IN THE WORLD DID YOU MANAGE SUCH A THING, SEBASTIAN?
ARE YOU REALLY ONLY A BUTLER?
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE NOT O.H.M.S.S OR SOMETHING AS WELL?

ON HER MAJESTY'S SECRET SERVICE



Black Butler

Chapter 7

In the afternoon : The Butler, Capricious

"SOMEONE WELL-VERSED IN MEDICAL SCIENCE AND ANATOMY."
"SOMEONE WITH NO ALIBI ON THE NIGHTS OF THE MURDERS."
AND "SOMEONE INVOLVED WITH A SECRET SOCIETY OR CULT OF BLACK MAGIC." ONLY ONE INDIVIDUAL FULFILLS ALL OF THESE CONDITIONS.
THE VISCOUNT OF DRUITT, ONE SIR ALEISTER CHAMBER.
HE GRADUATED FROM MEDICAL SCHOOL, BUT DOES NOT WORK AT A HOSPITAL OR PRACTICE MEDICINE.
HE HAS HELD SEVERAL PARTIES AT HIS RESIDENCE DURING THE SEASON... BUT...
...THERE ARE RUMOURS THAT HE ALSO HOSTS SECRET PARTIES ON THE SIDE IN WHICH ONLY HE AND HIS INTIMATE ACQUAINTANCES MAY PARTICIPATE.

THE ROSE SOMETHING OR THE GOLDEN SOMETHING
THE VISCOUNT OF DRUITT, HM...
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I HAVE HEARD RUMOURS THAT HE'S INTO BLACK MAGIC OR SOMETHING SIMILAR.
SO SOME KIND OF RITUAL IS BEING CONDUCTED AT THOSE "SECRET PARTIES"...
...AND THE PROSTITUTES MAY HAVE BEEN USED AS OFFERINGS.
YES.
TONIGHT, THERE WILL BE YET ANOTHER PARTY AT THE VISCOUNT'S RESIDENCE BEGINNING AT 19:00.
AS THE SEASON WILL SOON BE COMING TO AN END...
...IT IS SAFE TO ASSUME THAT THIS EVENING WILL BE OUR FINAL OPPORTUNITY TO STEAL IN.

MADAM RED.
KACHA KACHA
THAT IS WHERE WE STAND.
CAN YOU DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT?
REALLY. WHO DO YOU TAKE ME FOR?
I'M QUITE POPULAR WITH MEN, I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW.
OBTAINING AN INVITATION OR TWO WILL BE CHILD'S PLAY.
THEN IT'S DECIDED.
WE'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO GET INTO THAT "SECRET PARTY."
BUT MAKE CERTAIN TO NEVER USE THE PHANTOMHIVE NAME.
WE MAY FAIL TO CATCH THEM OTHERWISE.

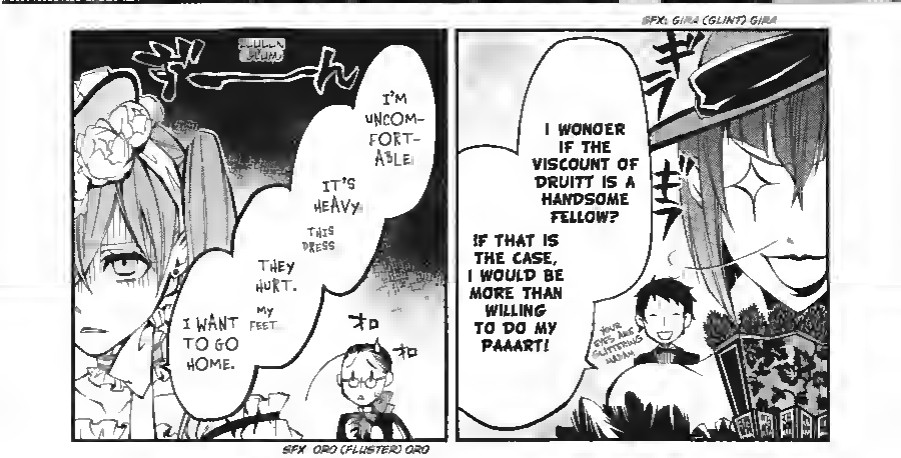
THIS IS OUR ONLY CHANCE!
ZAWA
ZAWA
ZAWA
I WONDER IF INDEED TONIGHT MARKS THE LAST NIGHT OF THE SEASON?
THIS IS RATHER GRAND, ISN'T IT?
WE'RE DONE FOR IF WE AROUSE THEIR SUSPICIONS.
LISTEN HERE.
ZAWA
IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THIS EVENING WILL BE MOST DELIGHTFUL.
ZAWA

WE DID NOT COME HERE TO AMUSE OURSELVES.
DO NOT LET YOUR GUARD DOWN!
GYUUUUU (SQUEEZE)
I UNDER-STAAAAND!
OHHH, MY!
YOU'RE JUST THE CUTEST LITTLE THING, AREN'T YOU!?
LET ME GO!!
GYUU
GYUU
WHY MUST I WEAR SOME-THING LIKE THIS —!?

NOW, NOW.
A LADY NEVER RAISES HER VOICE.
KO (CLACK)
KACHA (CLACK)
EH?
WHAT'S THIS? DON'T YOU LIKE YOUR MUSLIN-DRENCHED FRENCH DRESS?
HOW COULD I LIKE THIS!?
BOO! BOO!
IT'S THE LATEST STYLE AND EVERY-THING YOU KNOW?
SEBAS-TIAN... YOU BAS-TARD.
HE'S RIIIIGHT, YOU HEAR? YOU HAVE TO FOLLOW THE SCRIPT...
HEH
LAU IS MY YOUNG LOVER.
CIEL IS PLAYING MY NIECE, WHO HAS COME TO LONDON FROM THE COUNTRY-SIDE.
AND SEBASTIAN IS MY NIECE'S TUTOR.
OH, AND GRELLE IS MY BUTLER, PER USUAL.
LOVER REPORTING FOR DUTY!
MUSU (TOUT)
AAAAH!
NADAAA-

SFX: GO (STEAM) GO GO GO
WELL, YOU SEE, I'VE ALWAYS WANTED A DAUGHTER.
A CHARMING GIRL WHO LOOKS WONDERFUL IN FRILLY DRESSES!
THAT IS YOUR REASON ...!?
M-MADAM, WHAT ABOUT ME...
KYAH-HA!
SO ...!
WHY MUST I BE YOUR "NIECE"!?
THESE WILL TROUBLE ME...
...UNTIL I GET USED TO THEM.
...IT WOULD BE IF I WERE ONLY JOKING, BUT...
HISO
HISO (WHISPER)
...were you to be exposed as a Phantomhive, it would be disastrous for us all, right?
UM... PLEASE...
ZUUUUN (GLUM)
ME?
IN ANY CASE!
IF PEOPLE WERE TO SEE A ONE-EYED BOY WITH A WELL-DRESSED BUTLER, THEY WOULD KNOW IT WAS YOU ON THE SPOT!
SO THEN IT FOLLOWS THAT THIS IS THE BEST DISGUISE.

AND THE VISCOUNT OF DRUITT SUPPOSEDLY LOVES WOMEN OF ALL AGES, SO IT'S BETTER IF YOU'RE DRESSED THAT WAY!
WHA...!?
KYAH!?
HA-HA, HA! SHALL WE GET IT BE MADE? IT'S FOR A CHANCE FOR HIM TO LAY A HAND ON THE YOUNG FAIR!
WERE YOU NOT THE ONE WHO SAID...
..."DO WHATEVER IT TAKES"?
めうう
GRRRR!
NIKO (GRIN)
ニコ
THEN SHALL WE GO...
...MY LADY?

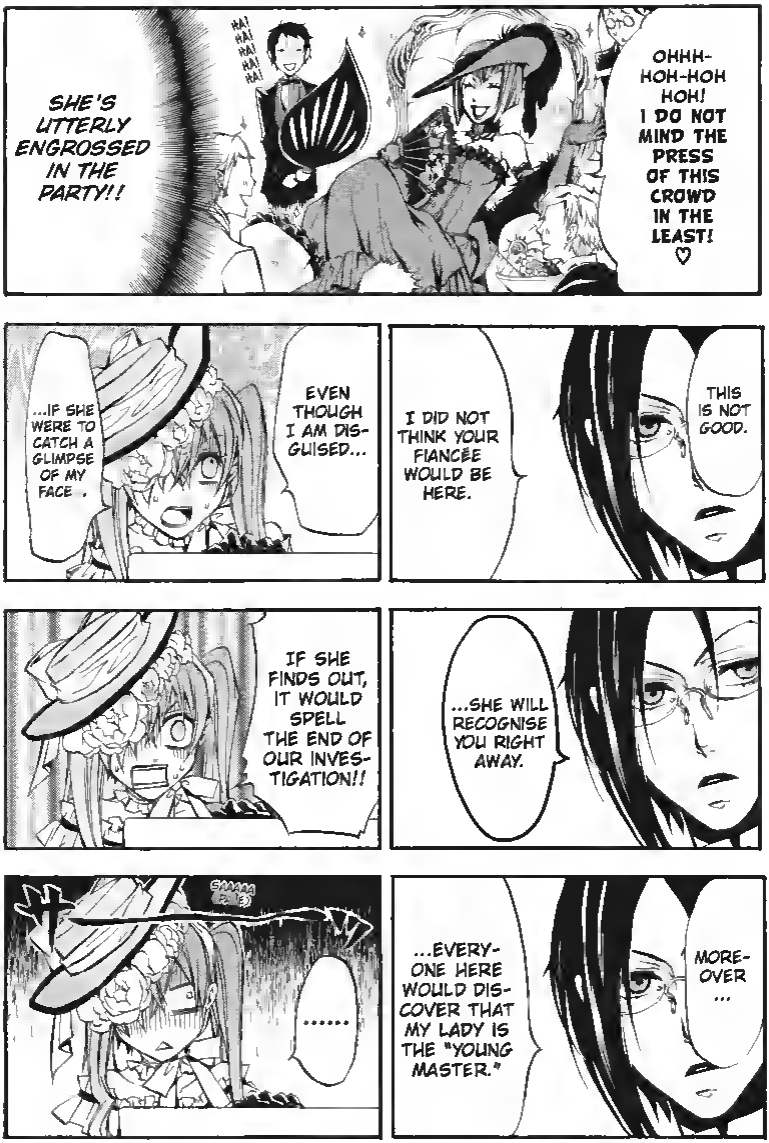

SFX: GIRA (GLINT) GIRA
I'M UNCOM-FORT-ABLE.
IT'S HEAVY.
THIS DRESS
THEY HURT.
MY FEET.
I WANT TO GO HOME.
I WONDER IF THE VISCOUNT OF DRUITT IS A HANDSOME FELLOW?
IF THAT IS THE CASE, I WOULD BE MORE THAN WILLING TO DO MY PAAART!
HIS EYES ARE GLITTERING INHUMAN

SFX: ORO (FLUSTER) ORO

OH, THANK YOU!
KYAH! YOUR DRESS IS SO CUUUTE!
OH NO... I'M EVEN IMAGIN-ING THE SOUND OF HER VOICE NOW...
AH, SO YOU REALLY THINK SO?
THAT HAT OF YOURS IS LOOOVELY!
EL...
...YOU'RE SO CUUUTE!
I DO NOT WANT ELIZABETH (MY FIANCÉE) TO SEE ME LIKE THIS...
ZAWA (MURMURS)
NO, I SUPPOSE NOT
ZAWA
ZUUUUN

はっ!!
HA (PANT)
SFX: ATA FUTA (PANIC) ATA FUTA
あた
Young mas—! My lady, please calm down. (WHISPER)
Se-Se-Se-Sebas-tian-
Se—! (WHISPER)
KYAH!
KYAH!
Let us go over there for the moment
ろた
あた
ろた
THERE ARE JUST SOOOO MANY LADIES IN THE LOVELIEST DRESSES, I CAN'T STAND IT! ♡
SHARANRAA (LOVELY)
THEY ARE ALL SOOOO CUTE! ♡
AH! ♡
ギクッ
GIKU (FLINCH)

THIS WILL NEVER DO, MY LADY.
THIS WAY!
SFX: ZAWA (MURMUR) ZAWA
!!!!....
THAT GIRL OVER THERE IS WEARING AN AWWWWW-FULLY CUTE DRESS! ♡
SHE'S FOUND US ALREADY...!!
OH?
SLI (CUT)
SFX: KIRA (SPARKLE) KIRA
キラ
キラ
Why is Elizabeth here!? I must at least get ahold of Madam and the rest —!
WHERE DID THAT GIRL GO?
KYORO キョロ
KYORO キョロ
KYORO (CLANG)


SHE'S UTTERLY ENGROSSED IN THE PARTY!!
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!
OHHH-HOH-HOH HOH! I DO NOT MIND THE PRESS OF THIS CROWD IN THE LEAST! ♡
...IF SHE WERE TO CATCH A GLIMPSE OF MY FACE.
EVEN THOUGH I AM DISGUISED...
I DID NOT THINK YOUR FIANCÉE WOULD BE HERE.
THIS IS NOT GOOD.
IF SHE FINDS OUT, IT WOULD SPELL THE END OF OUR INVESTIGATION!!
...SHE WILL RECOGNISE YOU RIGHT AWAY.
SHAAA (...)
.....
...EVERYONE HERE WOULD DISCOVER THAT MY LADY IS THE "YOUNG MASTER."
MOREOVER ...

IF IT BECOMES KNOWN THAT THE HEAD OF THE PHANTOM-HIVE FAMILY HAD THE GALL TO DRESS LIKE THIS, WE WILL BE SHAMED FOR ALL ETERNITY!!
KWAAAAH!!
I'D DARE NOT SHOW MY FACE BEFORE HER MAJESTY EVER AGAIN!
YOU ARE OVER-REACTING.
I WOULD RATHER DIE THAN HAVE THAT HAPPEN!
SO SHE MUST NEVE—
THE VISCOUNT OF DRUITT IS AS HANDSOME AS ALWAYS!
HIS PLATINUM BLOND LOCKS ARE LIKE SPUN GOLD!
...SO HE IS...
...THE VISCOUNT OF DRUITT...!!

NIKO (SMILE)
G-GOOD EVENING...
HE IS QUITE YOUNG ...
WE'LL USE A GREETING AS OUR FRONT TO GET CLOSE TO HIM.
I WILL OBSERVE FROM HERE BECAUSE THE PRESENCE OF A MAN MAY MAKE HIM WARY.
PLEASE BEHAVE LIKE A LADY, AS I HAVE TAUGHT YOU.
FED UP
HISO (WHISPER)
HISO
...I GOT IT AL-READY.
...VISCOUNT DRU—
AHHHHHH!!
FOUND YOOOU! ♡
DOKI! (SHUDDER)
!!
BLOODY HELL!
HELP CHIEF!

YOU OVER THERE, WAAAIT!
I WAS SO CLOSE!
.....?
GASP! GASP!
THIS WAY...
...MY LADY.
YOU THERE.

A LEMONADE FOR THAT LADY OVER YONDER, IF YOU PLEASE.
YES, SIR!
EH?
WOULD YOU CARE FOR A LEMONADE?
SU (SWF)
THAT WAS DANGEROUSLY CLOSE.
WHY DO I ALWAYS HAVE TO BE THE ONE TO SUFFE—
DAMN...!!
JIAN (JANGLE)
!!

THE HALL IS SWARMING WITH DANCERS...
YOU CANNOT APPROACH THE VISCOUNT NOW.
OH, HOW WONDERFUL!
...VERY WELL.
LET US EMPLOY THE DANCE AS A MEANS OF GETTING CLOSER TO THE VISCOUNT.
YOU WILL BE ABLE TO MANAGE WHAT YOU WERE TAUGHT, YES?
!?
ARE YOU TELLING ME TO DANCE HERE, IN PUBLIC!?
WITH THE LIKES OF YOU!?
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?
KATSUN (CLICK)

AS I AM BUT YOUR TUTOR *FOR THE PRESENT*...
...I AM OF A POSITION TO DANCE WITH YOU HERE, IN PUBLIC, MY LADY.
NOT AS YOUR BUTLER, BUT YOUR *TUTOR*, WHO ALSO NUMBERS AMONG THE UPPER CLASSES.
I SHALL LEAD SO AS TO AVOID COLLIDING WITH THE OTHER COUPLES.
LET US TAKE TO THE FLOOR.
R...
RIGHT.

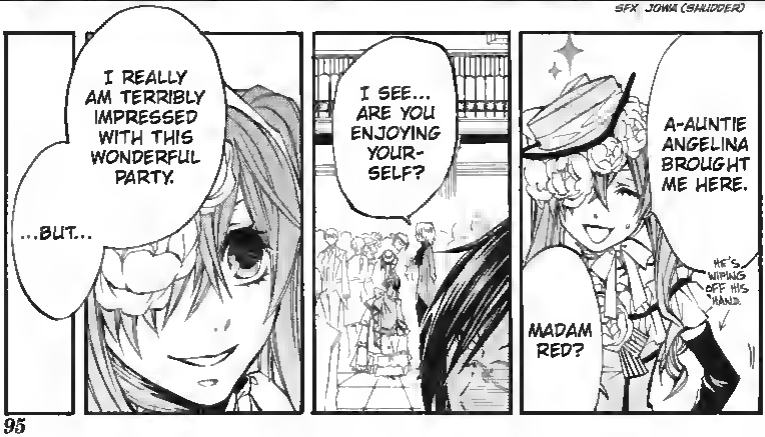
CONCEN-
TRATE ON
THE MUSIC.
IF YOU
MATCH YOUR
STEPS TO ITS
RHYTHM, I WILL
TAKE CARE OF
THE REST.
HEH!
YES,
TONIGHT
WILL BE
BOTH
THE
FIRST
AND THE
LAST
TIME.
I SHALL
NEVER
DO THIS
AGAIN,
DO YOU
UNDER-
STAND!?
TO THINK I'M DANCING AS A GIRL!

BOSO (WHISPER)
PROCEED FORWARD, JUST LIKE THAT.
WE SHALL CUT ACROSS THE HALL.
A
TAN (TMD)
WE'VE MADE IT AT LAST ...!!!
ZEE (WHEEZE)
HAAH!
ZEE
HAAH!
REALLY. HOW UNSIGHTLY TO BE EXHAUSTED OVER SUCH A TRIFLE.
↑ BUT HE'S TOO TIRED TO SAY AS MUCH
LABEL: YORORI (WOBBLY)
EXQUISITE.
PACHI
I WILL GET YOU SOME WATER FORTH-WI—
PACHI (CLAP)
PACHI

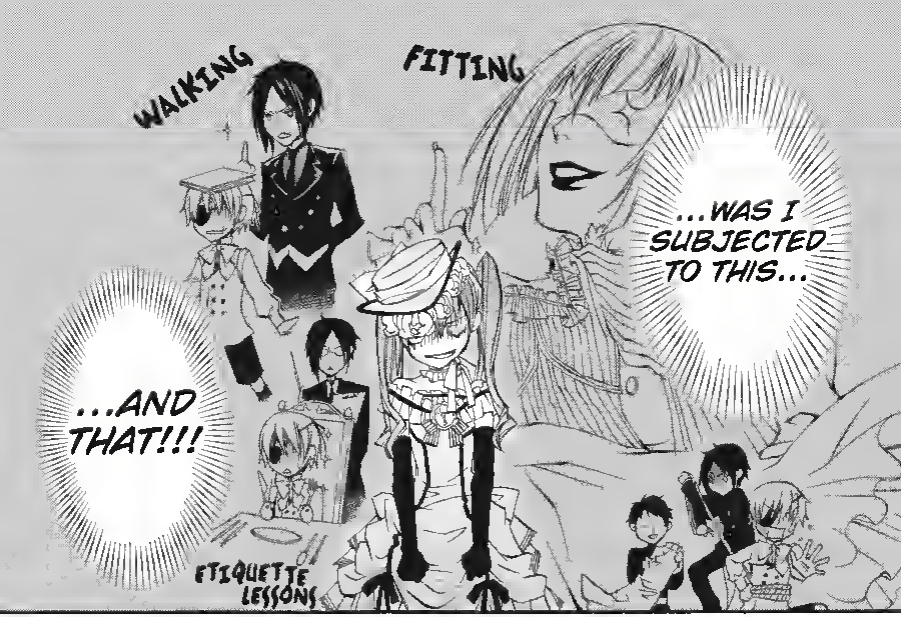
Your dance was as lovely as a robin taking wing...
THE VISCOUNT OF DRUITT !!
TO THINK HE WOULD APPROACH ME FIRST..
NIKO (SMILE)
...young lady.
...
MY LADY
I SHALL FETCH YOU SOMETHING TO DRINK
SU (SNF)

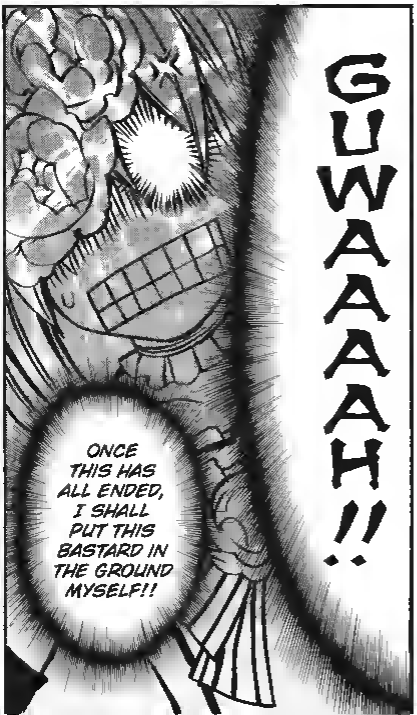
Pray tell, with whom did you come this evening, little miss robin?
CHU (KISS)
I AM MOST HONOURED BY YOUR COMPLIMENT.
AH...
UMM...
GOOD BUNNY.

SFX: JOWA (SHUDDER)

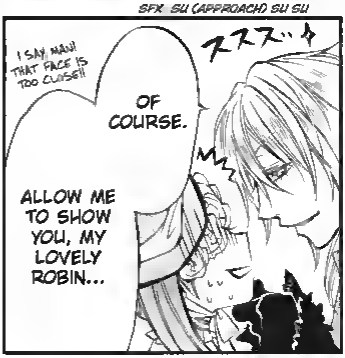

I REALLY AM TERRIBLY IMPRESSED WITH THIS WONDERFUL PARTY.
...BUT...
I SEE... ARE YOU ENJOYING YOURSELF?
A-AUNTIE ANGELINA BROUGHT ME HERE.
HE'S WIPING OFF HIS HAND.
MADAM RED?

HAAH...
I HAVE HAD MY FILL OF DANCING AND EATING.
OHH?
...I HAVE WANTED NOTHING MORE THAN TO TALK TO THE VISCOUNT ALL THIS TIME.
NIYA (GRIN)
SU (SWF)
A willful princess, aren't we...
...my little robin?
!
DO YOU LONG FOR YET MORE PLEASURABLE AMUSE-MENTS?
SUSUSU (CARESS)
OOOOO (SHIVER)
?
SO HE REALLY DOES LIKE ALL KINDS OF WOMEN.
BEAR WITH IT! I MUST BEAR WITH IT!!
ONLY FOR THIS MOMENT ...





SFX: SU (APPROACH) SU SU



IT WILL ALL BE FOR NAUGHT IF ELIZABETH APPROACHES ME HERE.
OH, YES. I AM...
...MOST CURIOUS.
SHE'S LOOKING THIS WAY!!
WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW?
ちら
SFX: CHIRA (GLANCE)
JIII (STARE)
I MUST GET IT OUT OF HIM BEFORE THE DANCE ENDS...
WHAT SORT OF THINGS?

HURRY!!
I AM A PROPER LADY ALREADY.
BUT PERHAPS IT IS A LITTLE TOO SOON FOR YOU?
HURRY...

JAAAAN (JANGLE)
OF COURSE!
I CERTAINLY CAN!
DON'T BE SO PRETENTIOUS!!
!
WOOOW...!
PACHI (CLAP)
PACHI
CAN YOU KEEP A SECRET FROM THE MADAM?
THE DANCE HAS ENDED!!
MY LIFE WILL BE OVER!-!
DOOOOM (WHAM)
AH!
NO...
ELIZABETH!!
SHE'S COMING.
YOU SEEM TO BE WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING?
OH!?

DON
DON
SEBAS-
TIAN!?
ザワ
ザワ
ザワ
ザワ
ザワ
ザワ

SIR, IF YOU PLEASE.
WOULD YOU BE SO KIND AS TO LEND A HAND?
ME? VERY WELL.
NIKO (SMILE)
NOW THAT THE PARTY IS AT ITS HEIGHT...
...ALLOW ME TO PRESENT TO THE LADIES AND GENTLEMEN HERE...
...AN ILLUSION THAT MAKES USE OF THIS CLOSET.
HA (GASP)
I DO NOT RECALL REQUESTING A CONJUROR ...?
AND NOW I SHALL ENTER...
...THIS PLAIN, ORDINARY CLOSET.
OOOOOOH...!

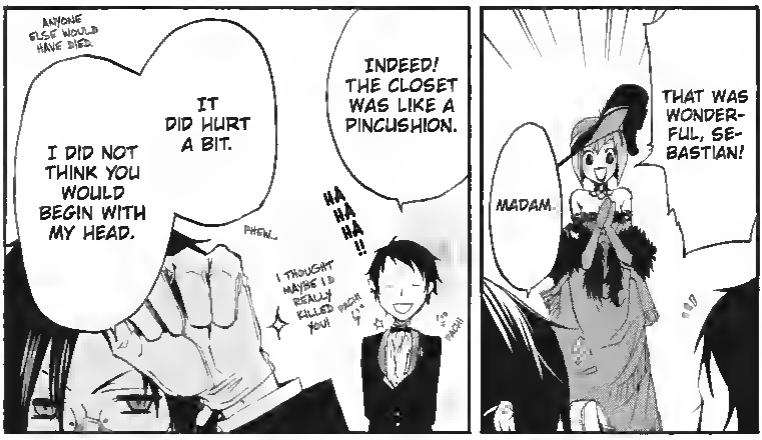
All right, my robin.
SOWA (SMIRK)
OH DEAR!
APPALLED BY HIS OWN ACTIONS
THIS IS MY CHANCE!
KYURUN (CUTE)
My lord.
I have seen enough magic as well.
So... 'kay?
*WHAT IS THIS "EAT" BUSINESS
...!
GYU (CLENCH)
RIGHT THIS WAY.
!
ONCE I HAVE ENTERED THE CLOSET, SIR...
...PLEASE SECURE IT TIGHTLY WITH THIS CHAIN.
GYU (SNF)
ZAKO (CLONK)

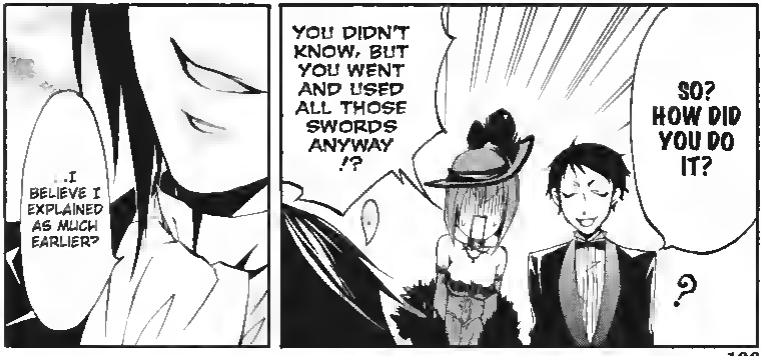
...TO PIERCE THE CLOSET.
THEN PLEASE EMPLOY THESE SWORDS...
GACHA GACHAKO
ZAWA
ZAWA
ZAWA GALLERIA
ZAWA
ZAWA
I PRAY YOU ENJOY THIS UNIQUE ILLUSION.
THERE ARE NO TRICKS INVOLVED.
I SHALL RETURN ALIVE FROM ITS SKEWERED RECESSES.

AHEM!
RIGHT, THEN. I SHALL TRY NOT TO HOLD BACK.
ズドキオン!!
GABIIIN (STUNNED)
HE AIMED DIRECTLY AT THE HEAD FIRST —!!?
HAAAAAAH!!
KAAAAAH!!
HOAAAAAH!!

HE DIDN'T HOLD BACK IN THE SLIGHTEST!!
WELL.
WHAT DO YOU SAY? IS HE STILL ALIVE?
CHOCK-FULL
I SUPPOSE THAT WILL DO.
JAAAAAN (TA-DAA)
ジャラ
JARA (CLINK)
ガチャ
GII (CREAK)
ごくりっ…
GOKURI (GULP)
WOOOOW!

BRAVOOO!!
WOOOOW!
AMAZ-ING!!
IT'S A MIRA-CLE!!
OHHHH!!!
YANYA
YANYA CHEERS!?
SFX: PACHI (CLAP) PACHI PACHI PACHI


ANYONE ELSE WOULD HAVE DIED.
I DID NOT THINK YOU WOULD BEGIN WITH MY HEAD.
IT DID HURT A BIT.
INDEED! THE CLOSET WAS LIKE A PINCUSHION.
HA HA HA!!
I THOUGHT MAYBE I'D REALLY KILLED YOU!
PACHI
PACHI
PHEW...
THAT WAS WONDER-FUL, SE-BASTIAN!
MADAM.


...I BELIEVE I EXPLAINED AS MUCH EARLIER?
YOU DIDN'T KNOW, BUT YOU WENT AND USED ALL THOSE SWORDS ANYWAY!?
SO? HOW DID YOU DO IT?
?

KATSUN (CLICK)
THAT THERE WERE NO TRICKS...
...IN-VOLVED.
WHAT IS THIS?
RUMAN (WAFT)
THIS ROOM SMELLS AWFULLY SWEET..
YOU WILL HAVE MUCH MORE FUN AT THE SPLENDID PLACE WE ARE GOING.
WHAT ARE THEY DOING?
THE GUESTS SEEM TO BE HAVING FUN IN THE HALL.
HMPH
WAAHH! NOOOOO!
A SPLEN-DID PLA—
KUSH (CRASH)
!?
YES...
I HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE...
DAMN!!
WOYA (HAZE)
YORO (SWAY)

...QUICKL...
ZU (SLIDE)
OH YES. A VERY SPLENDID PLACE INDEED...
...MY LITTLE ROBIN...

Black Butler

CHAPTER 8

At night : The Butler, Commendable

HAAH!
Seba—
Sebas-tian...
HAAH!
HAAH!
HAH!
GIGIN
CCREAKO
GIRI
(TIGHT)
I can't —! Take it any-more!
HAH!
...RELAX YOUR BODY SOME MORE.
HAAH!
NOW, PLEASE PLACE YOUR HANDS ON THE WALL, AND...
GI
...No! It hurts —!
DO BEAR WITH IT A LITTLE LONGER, SIR. YOU WILL FIND YOUR BODY BECOMING ACCUSTOMED TO IT SHORTLY.
Ah! Com-ing—
GIRI

GYUUUUUU (HAAA

IT'S DARK... NO, A BLINDFOLD?
TCH!
I'VE BEEN RESTRAINED SOMEHOW!!
AS IF THE CORSET WASN'T BONDAGE ENOUGH, NOW I'VE BEEN BOUND FURTHER, EH...?
OH LA CIEL!
YOU HAVE NO WASP WAIST?! IT IS A MUST FOR ANY WOMAN WORTH HER SALT!!
WELL, THE FAIL IS A BOY AFTER ALL...?
HA! HA! HA!
FED UP.
JUST BECAUSE IT'S NOT THEIR PROBLEM..
...?
ZAWA (MURMUR)
ZAWA
THE SOUND OF PEOPLE CONVERSING?
KAN (CLANG)
KYO (GLANCE)
ANYWAY, WHERE AM I?
ITEM? WHAT IS HE TALKING ABOUT...?
WON'T YOU PLEASE FEAST YOUR EYES UPON THIS!
THE VISCOUNT'S VOICE!!
QUIET PLEASE, EVERYONE...
NEXT, I PRESENT TO YOU THE FEATURED ITEM FOR WHICH EVERYONE HAS BEEN WAITING.

ZAWA
ZAWA
BASA
BASA
DERIVE YOUR ENJOYMENT FROM APPRECIATING HER AS YOU WOULD A FINE WORK OF ART...
...OR KEEP AND TREASURE HER AS YOU WOULD A PET. SHE WOULD PROVE A GLITTERING JEWEL FOR ANY RITUAL AS WELL, WOULD YOU NOT AGREE?
OR ACCORDING TO DEMAND, YOU MAY WISH TO SELL HER OFF IN PIECES.
WH —!?

AN UNDER-GROUND AUCTION, EH!?
NOW, ALLOW ME TO SHOW YOU.
THE COLOUR OF HER EYES IS A BEAUTIFUL CONTRAST BETWEEN THE SEA, WHICH REFLECTS THE SKY, AND THE DEEPEST FOREST.
A PRIZE OF THIS CALIBRE IS A VERY RARE ONE INDEED.
THE STARTING BID IS 1000!
2000!!
3000!!
THIS MAN...SO HE'S BEEN SELLING OFF THE ORGANS OF THE MURDERED PROSTITUTES HERE...

SLI (SSSK)
SEBAS-TIAN.
I'M HERE.
COME NOW, DOES NO ONE WISH TO PLACE A HIGHER BID?
YUIRA (PLICKER)
FLI (SNUFF)
!?
ヤバ!
DOKO (HEARTBEAT)
どくん
DOKO
どくん
ZAWA (BUZZ)
WHAT IS GOING ON!?

GYAH!!
GUAH!!
WAAH
BAKI (SNAP)
GOSU (CRUNCH)
MERI (CRUSH)
GO (CRUSH)
FU (FWOOH)
BO (FWOOO)
MY, MY.
DON (CLAP)
DON (CLAP)
YOU REALLY POSSESS NO TALENTS...
...SAVE FOR THAT OF BEING CAPTURED, SIR.

DO YOU NOT THINK YOU ARE TOO CARELESS BECAUSE YOU TRUST I WILL COME WHEN YOU CALL?
.....
SO LONG AS I CARRY THE COVENANT, YOU WILL COME FOR ME WHETHER I CALL YOU OR NOT.
THE "COVENANT" IS A "MARK" A DEVIL IMPRINTS UPON THE ONE WHO ENTERS INTO ITS AGREEMENT— ITS PREY— SO AS NOT TO LOSE SIGHT OF IT.
THE MORE OBVIOUS THE LOCATION OF THIS "MARK," THE GREATER THE POWER OF THE COVENANT.
HOWEVER...
.....OF COURSE.

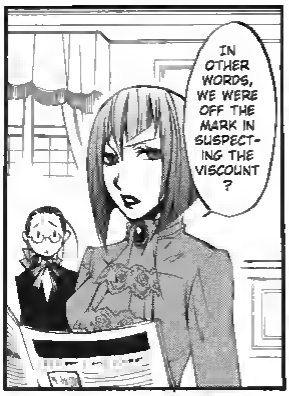
GUNYA!! (WARP!)
I SHALL ACCOMPANY YOU WHEREVER YOU MAY GO...
...NEVERMORE SHALL THERE BE ANY HOPE OF ESCAPE FROM THE DEVIL'S GRASP.
...UNTIL THE VERY END.
...THAT'S JUST AS WELL.
I DO NOT SPEAK FALSELY...
...AS HUMANS DO.
THOUGH THIS BODY MAY PERISH, I SHALL NEVER LEAVE YOUR SIDE.
I SHALL ESCORT YOU TO THE FARTHEST REACHES OF HELL.

DON'T YOU EVER LIE TO ME.
NOT EVER!
YES, MY LORD.
—NOW THEN.
I HAVE ALREADY CONTACTED THE YARD...
...SO THEY WILL BE ARRIVING AT ANY MOMENT.
ZA (STEP)
THEN LET'S NOT DAWDLE.
THE CHAPS AT THE YARD WILL BE NONE TOO PLEASED TO FIND US HERE.
YES, ESPECIALLY WITH THAT APPEARANCE OF YOURS...
PFFT
HEH..
...MY LADY."
TH-THAT'S RIGHT...!!

AHEM!!
ANY-WAY!
WITH THIS, THE CASE OF JACK THE RIPPER IS CLOSED!
BUT IT WAS OVER ALL TOO SOON...
NIKO (SMILE)
SFX. GAYA (MURMUR) GAYA
CHIEF INSPECTOR, THIS, MM!
!
IN ANY CASE, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE YARD HAS ARRIVED.
FUAH !?
GAYA (PHISH)
THEN LET US BE OFF.

TAN (TAP)
FUWA (FLOAT)
GOSHI
GOSHI (RUB)
JUST NOW, I THOUGHT I FELT SOMEONE THERE...
WAS IT ONLY MY IMAGINATION?

JACK THE RIPPER APPEARS ONCE MORE!

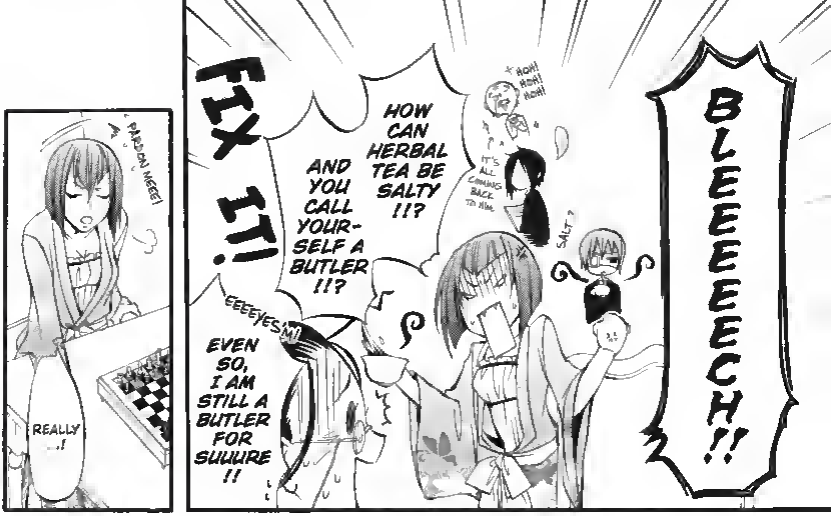

IN OTHER WORDS, WE WERE OFF THE MARK IN SUSPECTING THE VISCOUNT?

IF IT BECOMES SEEMINGLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR OUR LONE SUSPECT TO HAVE COMMITTED THE MURDER...
...THEN IT DOES BEG THE QUESTION OF A POSSIBLE COPYCAT.. NO, OR EVEN OF THERE HAVING BEEN MULTIPLE CULPRITS FROM THE VERY START.

Jack the Ripper
HOW COULD THIS BE!?
THE VISCOUNT DIDN'T GO ANYWHERE LAST NIGHT!
THE VICTIM IS ANNIE CHAPMAN.
A PROSTITUTE IS SACRIFICED AGAIN!!
I'LL NARROW DOWN THE SUSPECTS AGAIN.
SEBASTIAN, THE LIST.
YES, SIR.
WE'RE BACK TO SQUARE ONE...

THE POPULATION OF LONDON ALONE IS 4.5 MILLION.
AND THAT SWELLS FURTHER DURING THE SEASON.
BY SIMPLY RELAXING THE CONDITIONS, THE NUMBER OF SUSPECTS INCREASES.
(GORO GORO) ゴロゴロ
(GO...)
STILL AT IT, ARE YOU?
MADAM RED.
WHAT SAY YOU TAKE A BREAK FOR A ROUND OF *THIS*?
ALL WORK AND NO PLAY MAKES CIEL A DULL BOY!

I GOT IT OUT OF THE STORE-ROOM BECAUSE CIEL WAS COMING.
DOESN'T IT JUST?
THE CHESS SET, EH...? THAT TAKES ME BACK.
GRELLE, SEE TO THE TEA!
OH BOY.
AH!
MY PAPERS...
NOW, BREAK TIME, BREAK TIME!
AS IT IS EVENING ...
...I HAVE PREPARED AN HERBAL TEA OF ROSEHIPS.

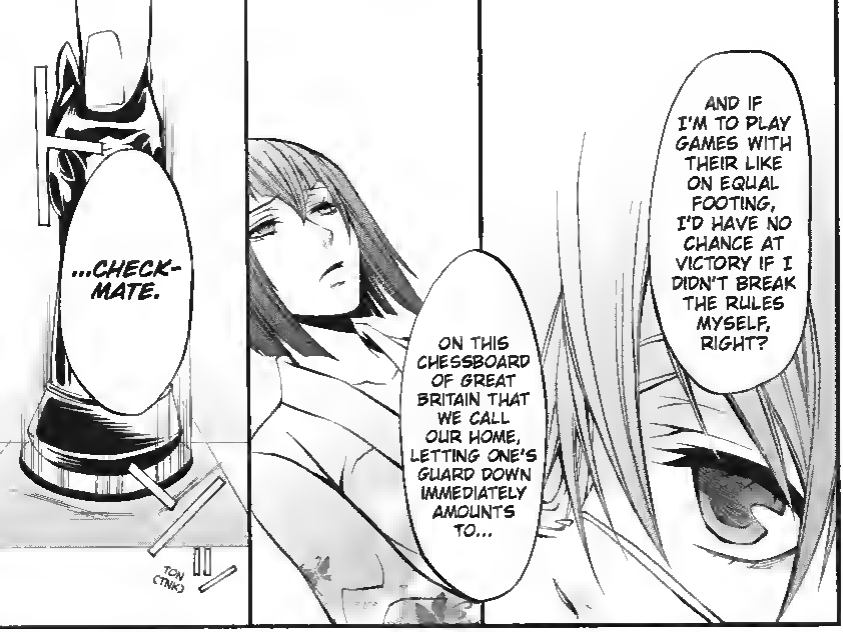

BLEEEEEECH!!
AGH! AGH! AGH!
IT'S ALL COMING BACK TO ME.
SALT?
HOW CAN HERBAL TEA BE SALTY!!?
AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A BUTLER!!?
FIX IT!
EEEEYES, M'LADY!
EVEN SO, I AM STILL A BUTLER FOR SUUURE!!
PARDON MEEE!
REALLY...!

CERTAINLY NOT TO THAT EXTENT.
NOT PARTICULARLY?
KARI KARI KARI
KARI KARI
BY CONTRAST, YOUR BUTLER IS REALLY RATHER COMPETENT, OR SHOULD I SAY A HARD WORKER, OR...?
KARI KARI
KARI (SKRIT)
KARI KARI KARI

IF SEBASTIAN IS THAT ABLE, YOU MAY AS WELL EVEN LEAVE THE INVESTIGATION OF THE VISCOUNT'S RESIDENCE AND ALL THE REST TO HIM.
KOTSUN (TNK)

AND ONLY I, THE "HORSE-MAN," CAN MOVE THE "HORSE."
IF I WERE TO DEFEAT MY OPPONENT WITH AN "AUTOMATON OF A CHESSMAN," THE ACHIEVEMENT COULD NOT BE CONSIDERED "MY OWN."
GU (CWF)
HE IS BOTH MY "MIGHT" AND MY "HANDS AND FEET."
SEBASTIAN IS BUT A "CHESS-MAN."
HRM... HE'S TAKEN IT...
I ALWAYS GIVE THE ORDERS...
...AND WITHOUT THEM, HE HAS BEEN DISCIPLINED TO MOVE NOT SO MUCH AS A MUSCLE.
HOW-EVER, YOU MIGHT SAY THE SOLE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SEBASTIAN AND THIS "KNIGHT" IS...

LIKE THIS.
AH! MY KING IS—!
KON (CHAIR)
...THAT HE IS A "KNIGHT" WHO CAN MOVE TO ANY SQUARE IN ONE FELL SWOOP.
BUT THAT'S AGAINST THE RULES!
REALLY?
INDEED.
THAT IS, IF WE ARE PLAYING A "GAME" OF "CHESS."
BUT THIS WORLD IS NO CHESS GAME, WHERE ONE CANNOT WIN IF NOT PLAYING BY THE RULES.
WITHOUT FAIL, PLAYERS WILL BREAK THE RULES...
...AND CHESS-MEN WILL BETRAY THE PLAYERS.


AND IF I'M TO PLAY GAMES WITH THEIR LIKE ON EQUAL FOOTING, I'D HAVE NO CHANCE AT VICTORY IF I DIDN'T BREAK THE RULES MYSELF, RIGHT?
ON THIS CHESSBOARD OF GREAT BRITAIN THAT WE CALL OUR HOME, LETTING ONE'S GUARD DOWN IMMEDIATELY AMOUNTS TO...
...CHECK-MATE.
TON (TINK)

...SURELY THERE MUST'VE BEEN...
...ANOTHER WAY FOR YOU TO LIVE, ONE THAT DIDN'T INVOLVE YOU BECOMING THE UNDERWORLD'S WATCHDOG.
I'M CERTAIN MY ELDER SISTER— YOUR MOTHER— WOULD'VE WISHED FOR IT TOO.
DESPITE THAT, HERE YOU ARE... HAVE YOU RETURNED, AFTER ALL, TO THE UNDER-WORLD...

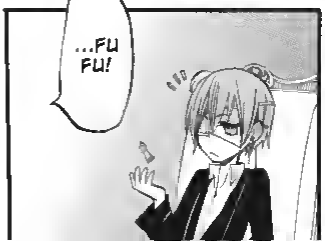
...BECAUSE YOU WISH TO AVENGE MY MURDERED SISTER AND HER HUSBAND?
ピクッ
PIKU CTWITCHD
NEITHER MY SISTER AND BROTHER-IN-LAW...
...NOR LIZZIE AND I WOULD WANT THAT.
I...
...HAVE NEVER ONCE THOUGHT TO AVENGE MY PARENTS OR ANYTHING OF THE SORT.
.....
ALCORD RUMBLED

CALLING IT "VENGEANCE" OR A "BATTLE OF REVENGE" IS JUST GLOSSING OVER THE TRUTH. SUCH UTTERANCES AMOUNT TO NOTHING MORE THAN THE SELFISHNESS OF THE SURVIVORS, AFTER ALL...
...A LUXURY OF THE LIVING, WOULDN'T YOU SAY?
WERE I TO AVENGE THEM, THE DEAD STILL WOULD NOT COME BACK TO LIFE...
...MUCH LESS BE ABLE TO ENJOY THE SWEET TASTE OF REVENGE.
...I...
...DID NOT RETURN TO PHANTOM-HIVE FOR THE SAKE OF THE PREVIOUS HEAD
I RETURNED FOR MY SELF.
ALL I WANT IS TO GIVE THOSE WHO BETRAYED AND DEFILED THE NAME OF PHANTOM-HIVE...

...A TASTE OF THE HUMILIATION...AND PAIN...
...THAT I SUFFERED.
CHECK-MATE.
TON CTNKO

I STILL REMEMBER THE DAY YOU WERE BORN AS IF IT WERE YESTERDAY.
I'D JUST STARTED OUT AS A NURSE... AND I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO DURING THE DELIVERY.

AN, GOSH!
THAT MAKES FORTY-SIX LOSSES IN A ROW FOR ME.
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN GOOD AT THIS KIND OF THING, AND I'VE BEEN LOSING TO YOU SINCE WAY BACK WHEN.


...FU FU!

AS A NEWBORN, YOU WERE TINY AND PRECIOUS ...
...AND I FELT I HAD TO PROTECT YOU.
THOUGH, IN THE END, I COULDN'T BEAR ANY CHILDREN OF MY OWN...
...TO ME, YOU'RE LIKE MY REAL SON.
AND AS A MOTHER TO HER SON, I WANT YOU TO WASH YOUR HANDS OF THE UNDER-WORLD.
I'M HERE NOW BECAUSE I WISHED FOR IT. I MADE THE CHOICE.
SO...

...I HAVE NO REGRETS, AND...
...I DO NOT WISH TO DEPEND... ON ANYONE.
トン (TAP)
NOW, IF YOU WILL EXCUSE ME.
Cha
IT'S BEEN FUN, MADAM.
I WON'T LOSE NEXT TIME.
...CIEL.
HEH..
GOOD NIGHT.

...WHY DOES HE...
...WHY MUST THAT SMALL CHILD... SHOULDER SOMETHING SO HEART-BREAKING AND PAINFUL?
I MADE SOME MORE TEA—
AWAH !?
THAT IS WHY...
...I HAVE VOWED TO SERVE BY THE YOUNG MASTER'S SIDE.
MY MASTER ALWAYS CARRIES OUT HIS WORD.
I SUPPOSE HE'LL KEEP ON GOING EVEN IF I TRY TO STOP HIM...
EVEN IF THE PATH HE WALKS IS LONG, DARK...AND COLD...

SEBAS-
TIAN.
I COULDN'T BE THERE FOR HIM WHEN HE WAS SUFFERING MOST.
I KNOW I SHOULDN'T ASK THIS OF YOU WHEN WE BARELY KNOW EACH OTHER...
...BUT PLEASE DON T EVER LEAVE HIS SIDE...
...SO HE DOESN'T STRAY OFF HIS PATH AND WANDER ALONE.
YES... I...
...SHALL STAND BY HIM AND PROTECT HIM UNTIL THE VERY END.

KA (FLASH)
MADAM ...?
ZAAA (SSSH)
SU (SHIP)
.....
MADAM...
GORO (RUMBLE)
GORO...
IT WOULD SEEM A STORM IS BREWING ...
WHAT A FRIGHTFUL NIGHT.
ZAAA
GORO
GORO...

...HOW ABOUT IT?
KON (KNOCK)
KON (KNOCK)
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I SIMULATE THE EVENTS, ONLY THE VISCOUNT COULD HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THIS STRING OF MURDERS.
PARA (FWIP)
GACHA (CRACHAK)
YES, TRUE.
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE FOR ANY OF THE PERSONS WHO WERE AT THE VISCOUNT'S RESIDENCE.
HAAAH.
SO WE HAVE TO ALTER OUR SEARCH CONDITIONS?
THE VISCOUNT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN YESTERDAY'S MURDER!
PITA (FREEZE)
ANYWAY, TOMORROW, WE'LL—

...SEBASTIAN...
YOU DON'T MEAN ...
(SMIRK)
I HAVE TOLD YOU MANY TIMES...
...THAT I DO NOT LIE.

YOU SAID AS MUCH...
I, YOUR "CHESSMAN," AM YOUR "MIGHT," YOUR "HANDS AND FEET"...
..."THAT DAY."
"I WILL DECIDE, I WILL CHOOSE ALL. AND FOR THAT, YOU SHALL BECOME MY 'MIGHT.'"
I AM MERELY A "BUTLER."
I DO NOT CROSS THAT LINE.

I ONLY FAITHFULLY EXECUTE WHAT THE MASTER ORDERS, AND ANSWER WHAT THE MASTER ASKS ME.
SU (SOUND)
SO IT WAS IMPOS-SIBLE FOR A PERSON WHO WAS THERE?
YES.
EXACTLY.
NOW I SEE ...
YOU BAS-TARD ...
HEH!
BY YOUR ORDER...
...I, YOUR "CHESS-MAN"...
...SHALL BECOME YOUR "SWORD."
ZU (WHOOSH)

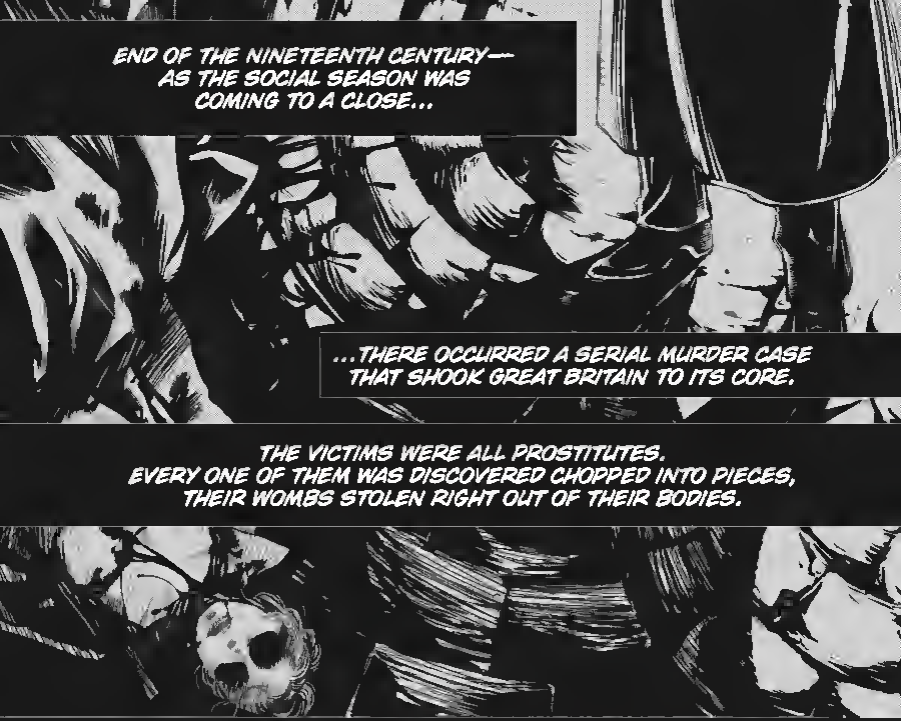
NOW THEN...
...LET US MOVE INTO CHECK...
...MASTER.

Black Butler

Black Butler

CHAPTER 9

At midnight : The Butler, Encounters


END OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY—
AS THE SOCIAL SEASON WAS
COMING TO A CLOSE...
...THERE OCCURRED A SERIAL MURDER CASE
THAT SHOOK GREAT BRITAIN TO ITS CORE.

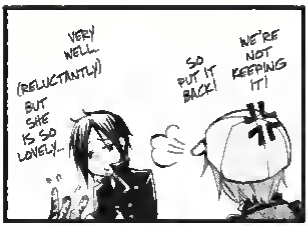
THE VICTIMS WERE ALL PROSTITUTES.
EVERY ONE OF THEM WAS DISCOVERED CHOPPED INTO PIECES,
THEIR WOMBS STOLEN RIGHT OUT OF THEIR BODIES.

BECAUSE OF THE HIDEOUS STATE
IN WHICH THE VICTIMS WERE FOUND,
THE KILLER BECAME KNOWN AS—

"JACK THE RIPPER."

IT'S COLD...
ブルリ
BURU (SHIVER)
...THIS THE ONLY PATH THAT LEADS TO IT.
YES. THAT IS THE ONLY ENTRANCE, AND...
IT LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT RAIN AS WELL.
...YOU MUST BE FEELING CHILL IN THOSE CLOTHES?
THOUGH YOUR USUAL GARB WOULD HAVE STOOD OUT IN THE EAST END..
YOU'RE CERTAIN HE'LL MAKE AN APPEARANCE IF WE KEEP WATCH HERE, RIGHT?
WEARING THAT WILL MAKE ME STAND OUT JUST AS MUCH SO I'LL PASS.

AND YOU'RE POSITIVE THE NEXT TARGET WILL BE MARY KELLY, WHO LIVES IN THAT TENEMENT?
YES.
I BELIEVE I HAVE TOLD YOU AS MUCH NUMEROUS TIMES?
THOUGH THE TWO OF US LYING IN WAIT HERE, MAKES US STICK OUT LIKE SORE THUMBS.
QUITE... IN ADDITION TO THE MURDERED PROSTITUTES "LACKING INTERNAL ORGANS"...
...THERE IS STILL ANOTHER "COMMONALITY."
BUT...
...WHAT MAKES KILLING THEM A NECESSITY FOR THE BASTARD?
MOREOVER, I...



— SO IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR A PERSON WHO WAS THERE?

NOW I UNDERSTAND...YOU BASTARD...
IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR A HUMAN BEING.
HSH.
I HAVE SPOKEN THE TRUTH MANY TIMES FROM THE VERY BEGINNING.
LIKEWISE, I HAVE NOT REMOTELY LIED WITH RESPECT TO THE RESULTS OF OUR INQUIRY.
"SOMEONE WELL-VERSED IN MEDICAL SCIENCE AND ANATOMY"
KAGA (RUSTLE)
"SOMEONE INVOLVED WITH 'A SECRET SOCIETY' OR 'A CULT OF BLACK MAGIC.'"
AND "SOMEONE WITH NO ALIBI ON THE NIGHTS OF THE MURDERS."
THE ONLY HUMAN BEING WHO FULFILLS THESE CONDITIONS IS THE VISCOUNT OF DRUITT.

INDEED, YOU WERE TELLING THE TRUTH.
HOW-EVER...
GUSHA (CRUMPLE)
...THE INQUIRY WAS BUT A FARCE!
BYU (TOSS)
MY, MY, ARE YOU TAKING YOUR ANGER OUT ON ME?
I WAS SIMPLY FOLLOWING YOUR ORDERS SIR.
NIKO (SMILE)

...SHUT UP!
I AM WELL AWARE!
YOUNG MASTER, I THOUGHT YOU KEPT ME BY YOUR SIDE...
...KNOWING FULL WELL WHAT I AM LIKE.
HAAAH...
NIKO (SMILE)
IS HE...
...THE SAME AS YOU?

HMM... NO, HE IS NOT.
I DARESAY SOMEONE LIKE HIM BEING IN THE HUMAN WORLD IS UNUSUAL IN AND OF ITSELF, BUT—
HE IS NEITHER A HUMAN...
...NOR A DEVIL?
THEN WHAT... IS HE?
HE IS—

WHA—!?
BUT NO ONE ENTERED THE ROOM—!
LET US GO!
DA
DA
DA
DA (DASH)
DA
GYAAAAAH!!
!!
RAN (WHAM)

PIPI (SPLAT)
YOU MUST NOT LOOK!
HA (LUNGE)
AH...

AH...
GAKU
AH.
GAKU (SHAKE)
UGH!
GAKU
GUH...
...EH!
PASHA (SPLAT)
BISHA (SPLAT)
...
..."JACK THE RIPPER."
—OR SHOULD I SAY...
BISHA (SPLOSH)
...QUITE A MESS OF THINGS...
YOU HAVE MADE...
HAAAH!
HAAAH!
HAAAH!

...GRELLE SUTCLIFF.
N-NO, THIS IS...
I RUSHED IN BECAUSE I HEARD THE SCREAMS, BUT SHE WAS AL-READY...
ALREADY... WHAT?
WE HAVE BEEN KEEPING AN EYE ON THE SOLE PATH HERE ALL NIGHT.
HOW IN THE WORLD DID YOU MANAGE TO ENTER THAT ROOM AT THE END OF THIS BLIND ALLEY AND EVADE US?

DO YOU REALLY PLAN TO FEIGN INNOCENCE, LOOKING AS YOU DO?
ENOUGH OF THIS, MISTER GRELLE.
—NO.
EVEN "GRELLE SUTCLIFF" IS JUST AN ASSUMED IDENTITY, SO...
...WHAT SAY YOU CEASE YOUR SILLY ACT...
...MISTER "GRELLE"?
THIS IS MY FIRST TIME MEETING "SOMEONE OF YOUR ILK" IN THE HUMAN WORLD.
YOU DID A SPLENDID JOB OF ACTING LIKE ONE OF THEM.
JOB?

TEE-HEE!
IS THAT SOOOO?
AND A FIRST-RATE ONE AT THAT.
I AM AN ACTRESS.
HIT THE NAIL ON THE HEAD, YOU DID.
SHU (SWIPE)

THE YOUNG MASTER GAVE ME THAT NAME...
...SO YES, I AM "SEBASTIAN"... FOR NOW.
BUT NEITHER ARE YOU "SEBASTIAN," YES?
OH MY, HIS FAITHFUL DOG, ARE YOU?
THAT TYPE OF STUD MAKES ME WEAK IN THE KNEES TOO, HE DOES! ♡
I AM THE BUTLER OF THE BURNETT HOUSE...
...GRELLE SUTCLIFF, AT YOUR SERVICE! ★
NOW THEN, ONCE AGAIN, SEBASTIAN... NO...
...SEBASTIAN DARLING! ♡

MY HAIR COLOUR WAS DREADFULLY DULL TOO!
TEE-HEE!
OOOH! I FINALLY GOT TO SHOW YOU MY TRUE COLOURS!
IT WAS UTTERLY MORTIFYING TO BE SEEN IN FRONT OF A STUD SUCH AS YOURSELF WITH NO MAKEUP ON!
おぞっ
(SHIVER)
MY DEAREST FELLOW BUTLER, I AM IN YOUR HANDS!
MWAH!
ALLOW ME...
...TO ECHO THOSE SENTI-MENTS, HM?
LITTLE OLD ME'S NEVER RUN INTO A DEVIL POSING AS A BUTLER BEFORE...
SO AT FIRST, I WAS JUST AS SHOCKED AS SHOCKED CAN BE!
EH!
AH! YES!?
ONE WHO IS SUPPOSED TO STAND NEUTRAL BETWEEN GOD AND HUMANS...
...I HAVE NEVER HEARD OF "SOMEONE OF YOUR ILK" BEING A "BUTLER"
FOR I TOO HAVE BEEN LIVING FOR QUITE SOME TIME, BUT...

...A GRIM REAPER!

WHY DID YOU, A "GOD" OF SORTS...
...BECOME A BUTLER?
DON'T BE SUCH A STUFFED SHIRT, SWEETIE.
BUT... VERY WELL...
I SUPPOSE YOU COULD SAY I FELL HEAD OVER HEELS FOR A WOMAN.
AND THAT WOMAN IS—
WHETHER YOU HEAR HIM OUT OR NOT, I THINK YOU ALREADY KNOW...

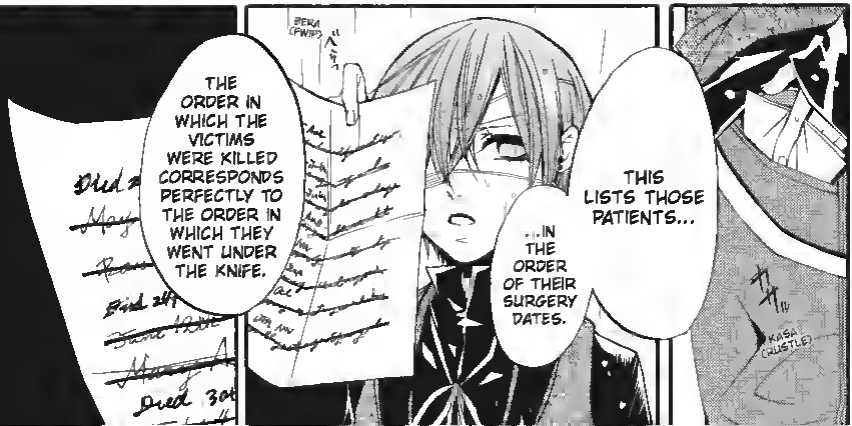
...SE-
BASTIAN.
...
MADAM
...
I MIS-
CALCULATED.
I NEVER
IMAGINED THERE
WOULD ALSO
BE SOMEONE
BY CIEL'S SIDE
WHO COULD
SEE THROUGH
GRELLE'S
DISGUISE.

SFX: GOSHI (WIPE)

IF THE POSSIBILITY OF ONE BEING JACK EXISTS—KIN OR ACQUAINTANCE—IT MATTERS NOT.
NO HUMAN ON THE LIST OF SUSPECTS COULD HAVE COMMITTED ALL THE MURDERS.
OF COURSE, THAT INCLUDES YOU, MADAM.

IF HE CAN ENTER MARY'S ROOM IN AN INSTANT WITHOUT US NOTICING...
...HE WOULD ALSO BE CAPABLE OF INSTANTLY TRANSPORTING HIMSELF OVER THE LENGTHY DISTANCE BETWEEN THE WEST END AND THE EAST END.
The scene of the crime
THAMES RIVER
Viscount's House
BUT IT IS A DIFFERENT STORY WITH A REAPER AS YOUR ACCOMPLICE.
THEREFORE, ONLY THE TWO OF YOU...
...CAN BE JACK THE RIPPER.
AND IF A SERVANT WERE TO DISAPPEAR FROM THE PARTY FOR A MATTER OF MINUTES...
...NO ONE WOULD PAY ANY HEED...

MADAM RED...
...AND...
...GRELLE SUTCLIFF!
THE VICTIMS IN THE JACK THE RIPPER CASE...
...HAD SOMETHING ELSE IN COMMON, ON TOP OF "BEING PROSTITUTES" AND "MISSING THEIR WOMBS."
ZAAAH (SSSSH)
ALL OF THEM UNDERWENT A "CERTAIN PROCEDURE" AT THE ROYAL LONDON HOSPITAL WHERE MADAM IS EMPLOYED.


THIS LISTS THOSE PATIENTS...
...IN THE ORDER OF THEIR SURGERY DATES.
THE ORDER IN WHICH THE VICTIMS WERE KILLED CORRESPONDS PERFECTLY TO THE ORDER IN WHICH THEY WENT UNDER THE KNIFE.
BERA (FWIP)
KASA (RUSTLE)
Died
Died

I THOUGHT YOU TWO WOULD SHOW UP IF WE KEPT WATCH HERE.
ONLY MARY KELLY, WHO RESIDED IN THAT TENEMENT, WAS ON THAT LIST AND "STILL ALIVE."
John
Mary
Fred
3/4
BUT STILL...
...I WAS UNABLE TO SAVE HER...
HOW SAD, CIEL.
MY LOVELY NEPHEW... MY...ELDER SISTER'S SON...
IF YOU HADN'T INSISTED ON GETTING TO THE BOTTOM OF ALL THIS, WE MIGHT'VE PLAYED CHESS AGAIN.
.....
HOW-EVER...

...!?
...I WILL NOT YIELD THIS TIME !!
YUMOON CHOONG

GYARARARARA (YWEEEE)
GARI (VWRR)
WHA ...!?
GARI
GARI
GYARA (SWING)
WH—! WHAT IS THAT!?

IT IS KNOWN AS...
...THE "DEATH SCYTHE."
ALL REAPERS POSSESS A TOOL FOR HUNTING SOULS
THE "DEATH SCYTHE" IS RATHER TROUBLE-SOME.
THOUGH THIS IS MY FIRST TIME SEEING ONE THAT LOOKS LIKE THAT ...
GYA (WHINE)
OF COURSE, ITS SHARPNESS IS GUARAN-TEED.
GYA
GYA
A "DEATH SCYTHE" JUUUST FOR ME, WHICH PLAYS THE GRANDEST HARMONY TOGETHER WITH THE DEATH THROES OF A SOUL!
GYARI
SOMETHING AS UNFASHIONABLE AS A SCYTHE WOULDN'T SUIT ME IN THE LEAST, DON'T YOU AGREE?
...SO I CUSTOMISED IT TO MY SPECIFI-CATIONS!
GYARI
GYARI (WHEE)
GYARI

KUNE (WIGGLE)
MY BODY'S GOTTEN ALL STIFF 'COS I'VE BEEN A GOOD LITTLE GRELLE THIS WHOLE TIME!
NOW I SOOO WANT TO WORK UP A SWEAT WITH Y-O-U!
A TOOL THAT ONLY A GOD LIKE ME CAN WIELD TO CHOP ANY-ONE AND ANY-THING INTO ITTY BITTY PIECES!
KYUUUUN (TWINGE)
I CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF THIS SIDE OF YOU EITHER, SEBASTIAN DARLING!
AHHHHN, YOU'RE SO STOIC!
SFX: GUON (SWING) GUON
WOULD YOU MIND REFRAINING FROM SUCH SICKENING DISPLAYS?
FURTHER-MORE, I AM ON DUTY AT PRESENT.
SFX: PISHARI (CLUNT)
LET ME TELL YOU A LITTLE SOMETHING SEBASTIAN DARLING— THE COLOUR RED MAKES ME SWOON
I JUST LOVE RED FOR MY HAIR, CLOTHES AND LIP-STICK
THAT'S WHY I ADORE MAKING OVER UGLY WOMEN WITH THE RED OF THEIR BLOOD
A WOMAN BECOMES BEAUTIFUL LIKE A POISONOUS FLOWER THE MORE GLAMOUROUS THEY ARE

A FINE GENT FITTED UP IN ROSE COLOURS WILL BE THE ABSOLUTE BEST, SEBASTIAN DARLING!
I WILL CUT YOU OPEN DEEP AND SPLATTER YOU IN ALL THE MANY SHADES OF CRIMSON...
...AND MESS YOU UP MOST GLAMOUROUSLY SEBASTIAN DARLING! ♡
A REAPER IS ONE WHO QUIETLY HUNTS THE SOULS OF THE DYING.
A BUTLER IS ONE WHO ACCOMPANIES HIS MASTER LIKE A SHADOW.
YOUR POOR TASTE GOES AGAINST THE AESTHETICS OF BOTH ... AND FAIR RAISES MY BILE.
I WORKED HARD AS A BUTLER FOR MY MASTER!
I DIDN'T WEAR MAKE-UP OR DRESS PRETTY WHEN I WAS AT WORK!
Boooo-Booooo!!
I AM APPALLED ...
HOW CAN YOU CALL YOURSELF A BUTLER?
NIII (LEER)

EVEN SO, I AM STILL A BUTLER... FOR DEATH!

To be continued in **Black Butler** 3

Black Butler

黒執事

Downstairs

KiYo

MiNe

Wakana Haduki

Akiyo Satorigi

Be sama

Kirito

Yana's Mother

*

Takeshi Kuma

*

Yana Toboso

SpecialThanks

to You!

BONUS MANGA

Madam Red's ★ LESSON ON HOW TO BE A PROPER ENGLISH LADY

(THIS TOOK PLACE BEFORE THEY WENT TO THE VISCOUNT'S RESIDENCE.)

LOSING YOUR NERVE AFTER COMING THIS FAR IS ANY-THING BUT MANLY!
REALLY!
CHUCKLE
HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT WHILST HOLDING THAT THING?

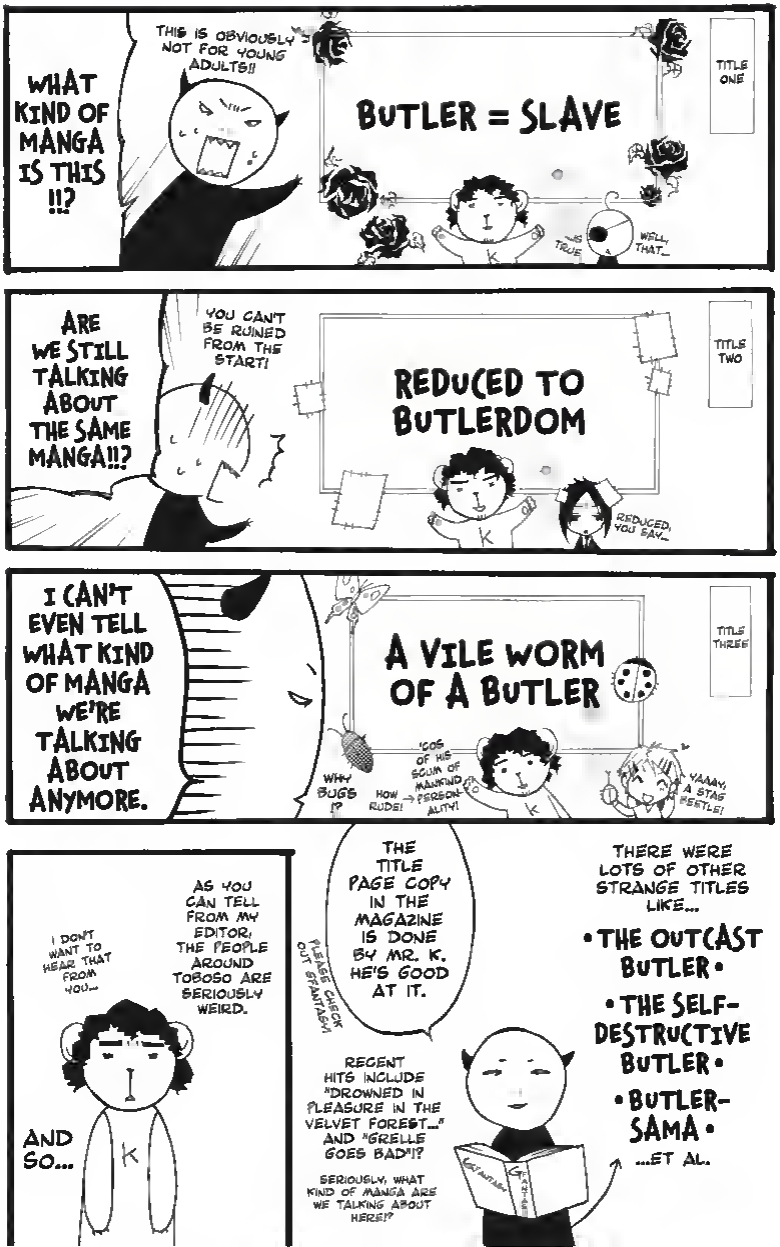
IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT AN ENGLISH LADY OF THE UPPER CLASSES MUST WEAR A DRESS OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY AND HEAVIEST SILK TO A BALL!
OH! MOST CERTAINLY NOT!
INCI-DENTALLY, I AM OF THE OPINION THAT A CHINA DOLL DRESS WILL BE NICE AND FRESH. WHAT DO YOU SAY?
THIS IS ONE OF OUR CRE-ATIONS
COME, COME. WE HAVE ALREADY DECIDED UPON OUR COURSE OF ACTION, SO THERE CAN BE NO TURNING BACK NOW
IT IS SOMETIMES NECESSARY TO RESIGN ONESELF TO ONE'S FATE, MY LORD.
YOU BASTARD
LAU...

SUCH RULES EXIST, DO THEY?
I SEEEE
WELL, OBVIOUSLY.
WHERE DO YOU THINK WE ARE?
THIS IS GREAT BRITAIN! THE LAND OF CONVENTIONS AND RULES!!!
BLUE, SILVER... AND PALE GREEN PREDOMINATE DRESS COLOURS HERE...
...AND ONE MUST ONLY WEAR PINK AT BALLS.
Ciel is young, so pink will be good.
MIGHT AS WELL
Perhaps we might shorten the length a bit?
AH YES, PINK WILL BE LOVELY
HA-HA-HA!
YOU'RE YOUNG YET SO YOU CAN GET AWAY WITH IT!
OH HOH HOH HOH HOH!
ENOUGH!!
DON'T IMAGINE IT!!!
TOBOSO'S COMMENTS: I FELT REALLY BAD FOR CIEL (SMILE), SO THIS MINI-DRESS WASN'T USED. BUT I'M SHOWING IT HERE

IN TUTOR MODE!!
ALL BALLS BEGIN WITH A "QUADRILLE."
NEXT, A "WALTZ."
PISHI (SLAP)
THERE IS STILL MORE FOR WHICH TO PREPARE.
SU (SWF)
IN ALL, ABOUT EIGHTEEN TO TWENTY-FOUR PIECES ARE USUALLY PLAYED.
PERA
SEVEN OF THOSE WILL BE THE QUADRILLE, WITH THREE OF THEM BEING LANCERS.
WELL THAT SOUNDS ABOUT RIGHT!
THE QUEEN OF EVENING PARTIES
PERA (BLAH)
THEN SEVEN WALTZES, FOUR GALOPS, AND A POLKA ARE TYPICAL.
THE REST DEPENDS ON THE HOST.
TO PUT IT PLAINLY!
YOU CANNOT GET THROUGH THE EVENING WITH THE FARCE OF A WALTZ YOU FEIGNED BEFORE.
MOREOVER A LADY'S STEPS ON THE FLOOR ARE THE REVERSE OF WHAT YOU ARE ACCUSTOMED TO!!
UGH...

THE WALTZ WAS ONCE CALLED IMMORAL...
...BUT THANKS TO THE QUEEN, THE WALTZ NUMBERS AMONG THE MAIN DANCE REPERTOIRE NOW.
BECAUSE THE MAN AND WOMAN MUST DANCE SO CLOSELY TO EACH OTHER.
SEDUCING THE VISCOUNT WILL BE NIGH ON IMPOSSIBLE IF YOU DANCE LIKE YOU DID LAST TIME.
IF I WERE HE I WOULD POLITELY DECLINE TO ACCOMPANY YOU.
SEDU—!?
HEH!!
FROM TALKING AND WALKING TO DANCING, GESTURING, AND SEDUCTION—
WHY, MADAM AND I, YOUR TUTOR, WILL BE DRILLING THEM ALL INTO YOU OVER THE COURSE OF JUST ONE DAY...
NIKKORI
...my lady ...?
じりっ
JIRI
N—!
HA! HA! HA!
じりっ
JIRI
N—!
AND THUS DID CIEL BECOME A FIRST-CLASS (?) LADY.
THE END
NOOOOO!
DO NOT RAISE YOUR VOICE! YOU HAVE NO WAIST!
PUSH
CHUUU

TOBOSO
IT'S NOT HITSUGI OR HITSUGI OR HITSUGI. I'M YANA TOBOSO.
HELLO...
DOWN-STAIRS WITH BLACK BUTLER II
DANGER! CONTAINS SPOILERS!
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU GAVE YOURSELF A DIFFICULT NAME LIKE TOBOSO.
WHEN I MENTIONED THIS TO MY EDITOR K...
YOU'VE GOT NO SENSE FOR NAMES—
HAHAHA
K
IT'S "TOBOSO," AS IN THE SECOND KANJI IN "THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM."
REMEMBER IT WELL!
TOBOSO'S GRAVE
IT'S TOO EARLY TO PUT ME IN A COFFIN.
NOWADAYS, PEOPLE MISTAKE ME AS "HITSUGI-SAN" VERY OFTEN...
AND SO, "A TRUE STORY ★ THE MAKING OF 'BLACK BUTLER'"
-YOU'LL DIE LAUGHING AT THESE REJECTED TITLES-
K-SAN, YOU CAME UP WITH LOTS OF WEIRD TITLES UNTIL THE MANGA WAS NAMED BLACK BUTLER !!!
I'M GONNA TELL ALL NOW!!
WHAAAT WAAAS THAAAT!?
I HAVE YOUR E-MAILS AS PROOF!!
...IS WHAT HE SAID...

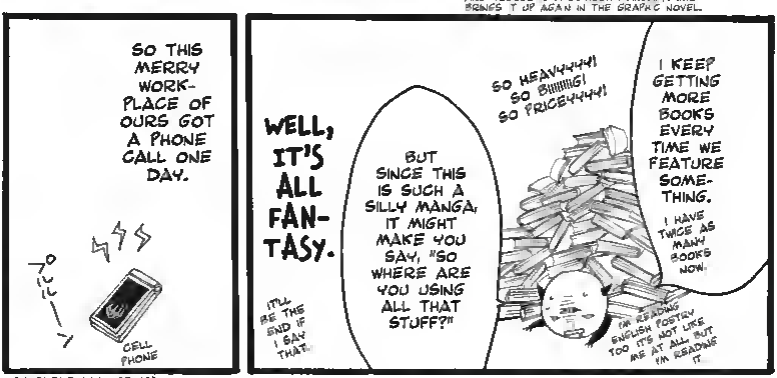

WHAT KIND OF MANGA IS THIS !!?
THIS IS OBVIOUSLY NOT FOR YOUNG ADULTS!!
BUTLER = SLAVE
TITLE ONE
IS TRUE
WELL, THAT...
ARE WE STILL TALKING ABOUT THE SAME MANGA!!?
YOU CAN'T BE RUINED FROM THE START!
REDUCED TO BUTLERDOM
TITLE TWO
REDUCED, YOU SAY...
I CAN'T EVEN TELL WHAT KIND OF MANGA WE'RE TALKING ABOUT ANYMORE.
A VILE WORM OF A BUTLER
TITLE THREE
WHY BUGS !?
HOW RUDE!
'COS OF HIS SCUM OF MANKIND PERSONALITY!
YAAAY, A STAG BEETLE!
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THAT FROM YOU...
AS YOU CAN TELL FROM MY EDITOR, THE PEOPLE AROUND TOBOSO ARE SERIOUSLY WEIRD.
AND SO...
THE TITLE PAGE COPY IN THE MAGAZINE IS DONE BY MR. K. HE'S GOOD AT IT.
PLEASE CHECK OUT @FANTASY!
REGENT HITS INCLUDE "DROWNED IN PLEASURE IN THE VELVET FOREST..." AND "GRELLE GOES BAD"!?
SERIOUSLY, WHAT KIND OF MANGA ARE WE TALKING ABOUT HERE!?
THERE WERE LOTS OF OTHER STRANGE TITLES LIKE...
• THE OUTCAST BUTLER •
• THE SELF-DESTRUCTIVE BUTLER •
• BUTLER-SAMA •
...ET AL.

SHEETS FOR CLOTHING PATTERNS OR FOR WHERE THINGS ARE GREY
I SPECIFY LOTS OF SCREEN-TONES FOR THE CHARACTERS.
EVEN IF IT'S A PAIN, YOU STILL HAVE TO APPLY THEM.
FOR EXAMPLE, TOBOSO LIKES CLOTHES.
BOTH DRAWING AND WEARING THEM.
UP TILL NOW HE HASN'T WORN THE SAME CLOTHES TWICE.
THE YOUNG MASTER IS THE MAIN VICTIM OF THIS
THEY'RE GOOD PEOPLE WHO HELP OUT WITH WHAT TOBOSO WANTS TO DO!
TWO OUT OF THREE ARE LEFTIES.
MADAM HAIR
...MY ASSIS-TANTS ARE PRETTY WEIRD TOO.
K
S
H
WHAT SHOULD I DO FOR THE KOSHAKU'S* CLOTHES!?
WE HAVE TO APPLY SOMETHING!
MANUSCRIPT
YANA-SAN, YANA-SAN!!
THEN, MY ASSIS-TANT H-CHAN SAID...
...WE DIDN'T HAVE MUCH TIME LEFT, SO EVERY-ONE WAS TONING.
RIGHT BE-FORE THE CH. 7 DEAD-LINE...
CRAP, CRAP!!
MOM.
AFTER WE ALL LAUGHED OUR HEADS OFF, THE VISCOUNT OF DRUITT'S NICK-NAME BECAME "KOSHAKU"...
AND WE STILL CALL HIM KOSHAKU TO THIS DAY.
HOW AWFUL!
HE REALLY IS.
YOU REALLY ARE THE WORST
DRUITT REALLY IS KOSHAKU.
HA HA HA!
AH HA HA!
WHAT NERVE!
子爵
KOSHAKU*
えっ
MOM.

*"VISCOUNT" IS SHIGHAKU IN JAPANESE. NOT KOSHAKU WHICH MEANS "INSOLENT" OR "NERVY." KOUSHAKU CAN MEAN "MARQUIS" OR "DUKE." HOWEVER.

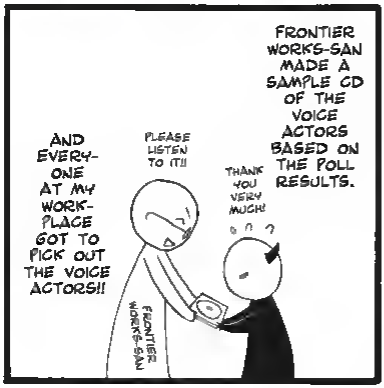
IT SAYS THAT IN THE SUMMER, THEY DECORATED FIREPLACES WITH PLANTS!!
THE SEASON TOOK PLACE IN SUMMER!
WH-
WHAAAAAT!!?
PLEEEEASE!!!
BUT WE'VE ALREADY DRAWN IT ALLLL!!
THE VICTORIANS DID NOT CONDONE RANDOM GAPS!!!
RIGHT BEFORE A DEADLINE
EVERYONE'S A NOVICE REGARDING THE END OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY (INCLUDING ME). BUT WE'RE STUDYING UP AND DOING OUR BEST.
WELL, AN EARL OR A BARON IS WELL KNOWN, BUT A VISCOUNT IS NOT (?).
YOU HARDLY EVER HEAR IT BEING MENTIONED IN MODERN JAPAN.
UWAAAHN!!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP BRINGING IT UP OVER AND OVER!!!
THE KOSHAKU OF DRUITT! AH-HA-HA-HA! KOSHAKU, HUH? H-CHAN IS SOOOOOOO CUTE!!

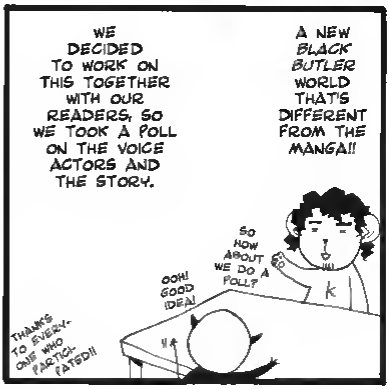
AND TOBOSO IS A DEVILISH MANGAKA WHO BRINGS IT UP AGAIN IN THE GRAPHIC NOVEL.

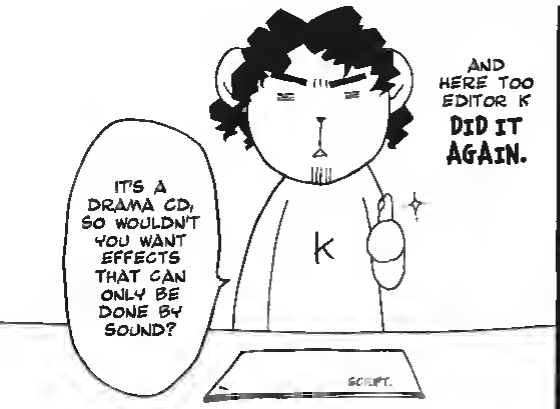

SO THIS MERRY WORK-PLACE OF OURS GOT A PHONE CALL ONE DAY.
PURURURURU
CELL PHONE
WELL, IT'S ALL FAN-TASY.
I'LL BE THE END IF I SAY THAT.
BUT SINCE THIS IS SUCH A SILLY MANGA, IT MIGHT MAKE YOU SAY, "SO WHERE ARE YOU USING ALL THAT STUFF?!"
SO HEAVY!!!! SO BIIIIIIG! SO PRICEY!!!!
I KEEP GETTING MORE BOOKS EVERY TIME WE FEATURE SOME-THING.
I HAVE TWICE AS MANY BOOKS NOW.
I'M READING ENGLISH POETRY TOO. IT'S NOT LIKE ME AT ALL, BUT I'M READING IT.

SFX: PURURURURU (RING)

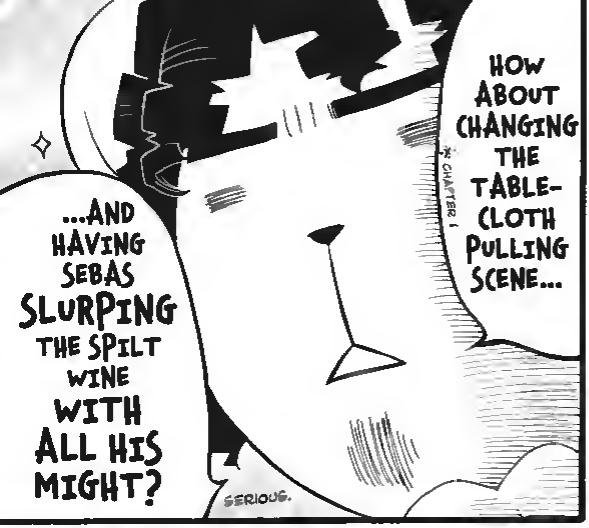
...IS GOING TO BE A DRAMA CD!!
FRONTIER WORKS-SAN IS GOING TO PUT IT OUT!!!
SCRIPT.
SCRIPT.
AND SO, BLACK BUTLER ...

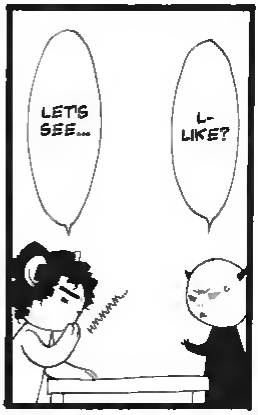

FRONTIER WORKS-SAN MADE A SAMPLE CD OF THE VOICE ACTORS BASED ON THE POLL RESULTS.
PLEASE LISTEN TO IT!!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
AND EVERY-ONE AT MY WORK-PLACE GOT TO PICK OUT THE VOICE ACTORS!!
FRONTIER WORKS-SAN

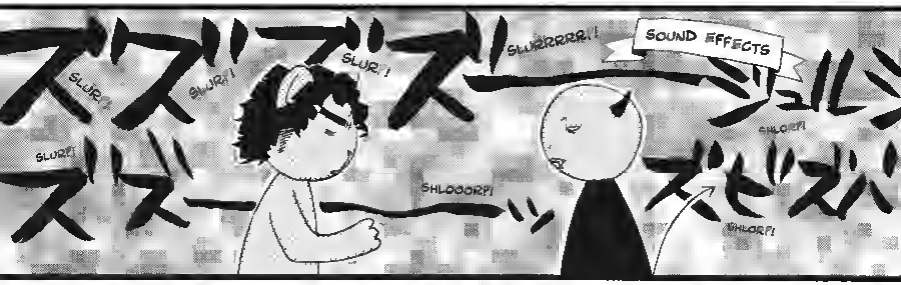

WE DECIDED TO WORK ON THIS TOGETHER WITH OUR READERS, SO WE TOOK A POLL ON THE VOICE ACTORS AND THE STORY.
A NEW BLACK BUTLER WORLD THAT'S DIFFERENT FROM THE MANGA!!
SO HOW ABOUT WE DO A POLL?
OOH! GOOD IDEA!
THANKS TO EVERY-ONE WHO PARTICI-PATED!!


AND HERE TOO EDITOR K DID IT AGAIN.
IT'S A DRAMA CD, SO WOULDN'T YOU WANT EFFECTS THAT CAN ONLY BE DONE BY SOUND?
SCRIPT.

THEN THE SCRIPT ARRIVED, AND I LOOKED IT OVER WITH MY EDITOR.
WOOOOH!
BLACK BUTLER FIRST DRAFT
THE SCRIPT'S READY!
I FELT A BIT TICKLED ABOUT MY MANGA GETTING TURNED INTO A SCRIPT.


...AND HAVING SEBAS SLURPING THE SPILT WINE WITH ALL HIS MIGHT?
SERIOUS.
CHAPTER 1
HOW ABOUT CHANGING THE TABLE-CLOTH PULLING SCENE...





THIS KIND OF STUFF HAPPENED, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THE CD WILL TURN OUT TO BE WON-DERFUL!
AND SO, NEXT UP IS VOLUME 3!! I PRAY THAT WE'LL BE ABLE TO MEET AGAIN!

(MY EDITOR'S IDEA) → IT HAS LINES THAT AREN'T IN THE MANGA. PERSONALLY, I THINK THE PART TO LISTEN OUT FOR IS SEBASTIAN'S LINE ABOUT PACIFIERS.

SFX BA (WAVE) BA BA

Translation Notes

Page 7

Assam tea

A rich, full-bodied black tea grown in Assam, India which is often used in breakfast tea blends such as English Breakfast Tea.

Page 8

Herend Chinoiserie

This is arguably Herend Porcelain's most famous pattern and was debuted in 1851 at the first World's Fair in London, where it caught the eye of Queen Victoria and was later renamed for her. Herend Porcelain is a Hungarian manufacturer of luxury porcelain goods that was popular with European aristocrats during the Victorian era.

Page 9

Keemun tea

An aromatic black tea of Chinese origin that has a fruity taste. It was first produced in 1875.

Page 10

Couverture

High-grade chocolate that contains a greater percentage of cocoa butter, producing a creamier flavor and extra sheen when tempered. These characteristics are especially valuable to professional chocolate makers.

Cointreau

A triple-distilled French liqueur made from the peels of bitter oranges.

Page 14

"Art is an explosion!"

A reference to the Japanese painter and sculptor Taro Okamoto, who was known for his avant-garde works; "Art is explosion!" was a catchphrase of his.

Page 39

Elevenses

A light, mid-morning snack similar to afternoon tea, but for the time at which it is consumed.

Jackson's Earl Grey

Earl Grey is a fragrant, citrusy bergamot-flavoured black tea that was named for the second Earl Grey, who is said to have gotten the blend from China. Jackson's of Piccadilly Earl Grey is still available today; you should try it!

Page 41

Jack the Ripper

A serial killer who stalked the streets of Whitechapel in East London in late 1888. Though hotly contested, Mary Ann "Polly" Nichols was one of the Ripper's first victims.

Page 50

"What the heck?"

A typical *tsukkomi* ("straight man") line and gesture in a *manzai* (two-person stand-up comedy) act.

"The next performer seems to be good."

A typical way to end a performance in *rakugo*, a Japanese storytelling

tradition featuring one storyteller who uses few props and vocal and physical gestures to tell lengthy, comical stories involving multiple characters.

PAGE 51
"A fool on the futon."
Originally, *futon ga futtonda* ("The futon blew away"; a bad pun in Japanese).

PAGE 55
"Sell off your kidney or liver to make the money!"
An example of what yakuza loan sharks are thought to say when collecting on loans.

PAGE 87
Ciel's dialogue while in drag
In the original Japanese edition, Ciel speaks with feminine endings to his sentences that are common in Japanese when he is speaking to the Viscount of Druitt at the ball.

PAGE 114
Wasp waist
A fashion silhouette that was popular in the 19th century, where a woman's waist was cinched even more tightly than in an average corset, creating a tiny waist that was considered essential for any woman who wanted to be the picture of feminine beauty.

PAGE 125
Annie Chapman
Often recognised as Jack the Ripper's second confirmed victim, Annie Chapman was killed and her uterus removed in September 1888 in East London.

PAGE 150
Mary Kelly
Often thought to be the final victim of the actual Jack the Ripper, Mary Kelly was a prostitute who was killed in November of 1888 in the Whitechapel area of London's East End.

PAGE 161
Grelle's mode of speech (aka *onee kotoba*)
Once Grelle's true identity is revealed, he begins speaking in *onee kotoba* (literally, "older sister speech"). This is a rough, effeminate form of spoken Japanese often employed by gay and male-to-female transgendered individuals in which feminine pronouns, word endings, and intonation are used. For example, instead of using *watashi* (a common, polite, neutral pronoun meaning "I"), he refers to himself as *atashi*, which is a colloquial pronoun that a young woman might use to refer to herself.

PAGE 162
Sebastian darling/Sebastian
In the Japanese edition, Grelle uses "Sebas-*chan*" as his nickname for Sebastian. This is essentially a homophone for the Phantomhive butler's name, but the way it's written shows that Grelle is shortening Sebastian's given name and adding *-chan* to it. *-chan* is a diminutive honorific used for little girls and cute persons or creatures of either gender that indicates familiarity. Grelle's getting a little intimate here, and Sebastian could take it as an insult if he's so inclined!

Speaking of Sebastian's given name, did you know that in anime and manga, the name "Sebastian" is sort of the Japanese equivalent of "Jeeves"? In other words, it's the most popular/stereotypical name for a butler. This has a lot to do with the popular 1970s anime classic *Heidi, Girl of the Alps* and the butler character in it — Sebastian, of course.

Page 169

Royal London Hospital

An actual institution in Whitechapel, this was known as the London Hospital until 1990, when its name was changed to the Royal London Hospital.

Page 177

"Even so, I am still a butler . . . for DEATH!"

Grelle too seems to be fond of puns In Japanese, he says, "*Kore demo shitsuji DEATH!*" *DEATH* in Japanese is a homophone for *desu*, a linking verb that usually means "to be."

Page 182

Quadrille, Lancers quadrille, galop, polka

The dances Sebastian mentions were all very popular during the social season in Victorian England. Introduced in England in the nineteenth century, the quadrille is a brisk, traditional dance involving intricate figures (or movements) performed by four couples organised in the shape of a square who face inward toward each other on the floor. The Lancers quadrille was another set of movements introduced later that were said to be more complicated than its predecessor The galop was a fast, popular, closed-hold country dance And the polka was a dance that originated in Central Europe and involved small half-steps to a light, airy tune.

Page 183

"It's not Hitsugi . . ."

The single kanji character that makes up Toboso-sensei's last name is easily confused with the kanji for "coffin."

Page 184

"Grelle Goes Bad"

The Japanese for this chapter description is "Gureru • Gureru?" which is a play on words Grelle is pronounced "Gureru" in Japanese and is a homophone for *gureru*, which means "to stray from the right path."

Japanese Honorifics

-san: The Japanese equivalent of Mr./Mrs./Miss. If a situation calls for politeness, this is the fail-safe honorific.

-kun: Used most often when referring to boys (though it can be applied to girls as well), this indicates affection or familiarity. Occasionally used by older men among their peers, but it may also be used by anyone referring to a person of lower standing.

-chan: An affectionate honorific indicating familiarity used mostly in reference to girls; also used in reference to cute persons or animals of either gender.

Yana Toboso

Author's note

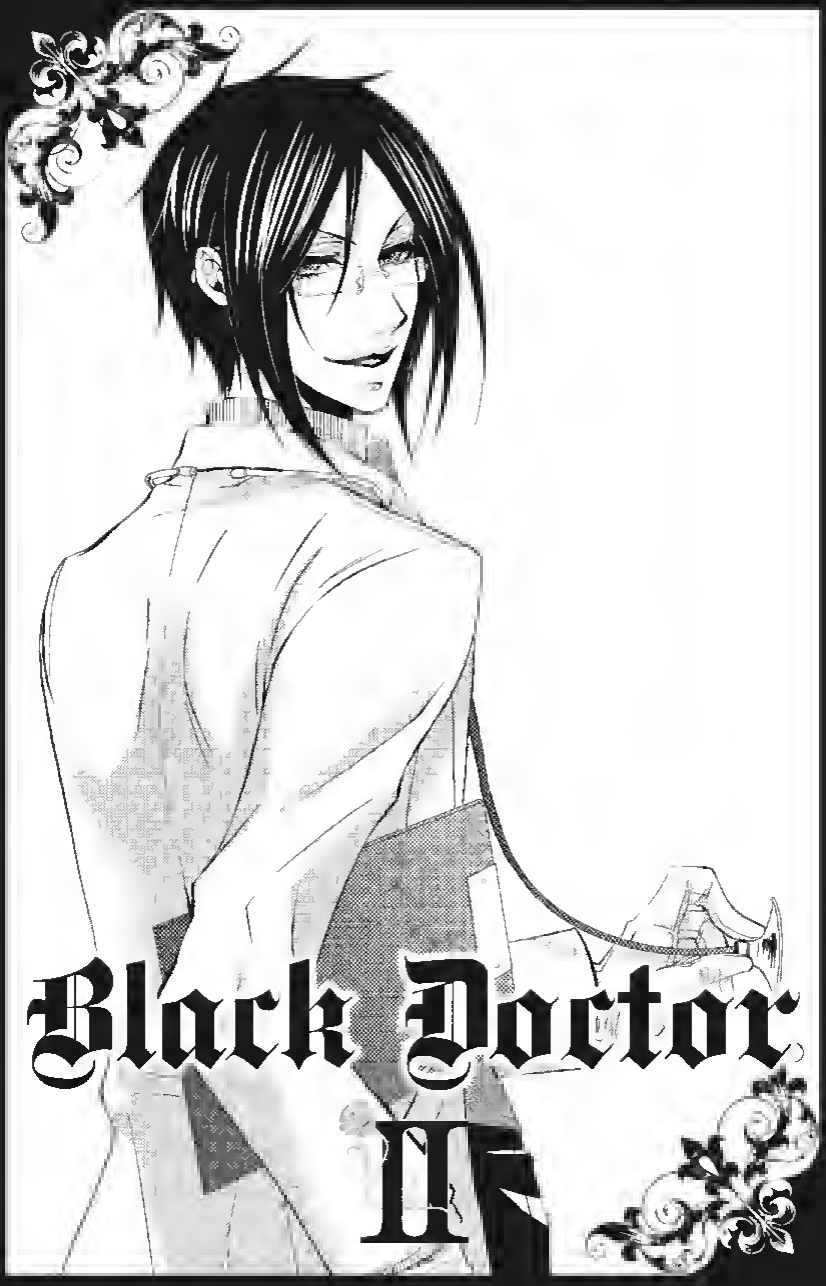
Nowadays, I really feel that nothing goes right unless I make up my mind and am ready.

Working, playing, doing good things, and doing bad things won't go the way I want them to unless I brace myself in advance.

Even doing silly things isn't fun unless I'm prepared for it.

Well then.

I felt like that with ***Black Butler*** 2.


Black Doctor
II

The mysterious Doctor Sebastian signs contracts with patients for outrageous fees and can cure any and all illnesses. In this grand, moving, and spectacular film, he fights against both swirling intrigue and viruses in a large general hospital.

...or something.

BLACK BUTLER 2

Yana Toboso

Translation: Tomo Kimura • Lettering: Tania Biswas

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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